MARVEL 019

BEFORE DEAD NO MORE

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER HERO!

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

SLOTT
GAGE
CAMUNCOLI
SMITH
KEITH

PLUS: A BONUS
DEAD NO MORE:
THE CLONE CONSPIRACY
STORY BY DAN SLOTT
AND JAVIER GARRÓN!

WHEN **PETER PARKER** WAS BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, HE GAINED THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER; ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES; AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER LEARNING THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILTY, HE BECAME THE CRIME-FIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED…

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

RECENTLY, AUNT MAY'S HUSBAND JAY JAMESON, J. JONAH JAMESON'S FATHER, COLLAPSED AND WAS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL, WHERE HE IS NOW FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE.

MEANWHILE, A NEW PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY CALLED NEW U HAS APPEARED ON THE SCENE. THEY PROMISE MIRACULE CURES USING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY AND HAVE OFFERED THE PROCEDURE TO JAY, BUT PETER IS SKEPTICAL.

UNBEKNOWNST TO EVERYONE, NEW U IS ACTUALLY RUN BY THE JACKAL. RUNNING THE COMPANY FROM THE SHADOWS, HE HAS USED THE PROCESS TO ENLIST SOME OF SPIDER-MAN'S DEADLIEST ENEMIES. WORSE STILL, HIS INFLUENCE HAS SPREAD INTO PETER PARKER'S OWN FAMILY, AS J. JONAH JAMESON RECENTLY LEARNED THAT NEW U HAS BROUGHT HIS LATE WIFE, MARLA, BACK TO LIFE.

BEFORE DEAD NO MORE PART FOUR: "CHANGE OF HEART"

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SPECIAL THANKS TO DANIELE ORLANDINI

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

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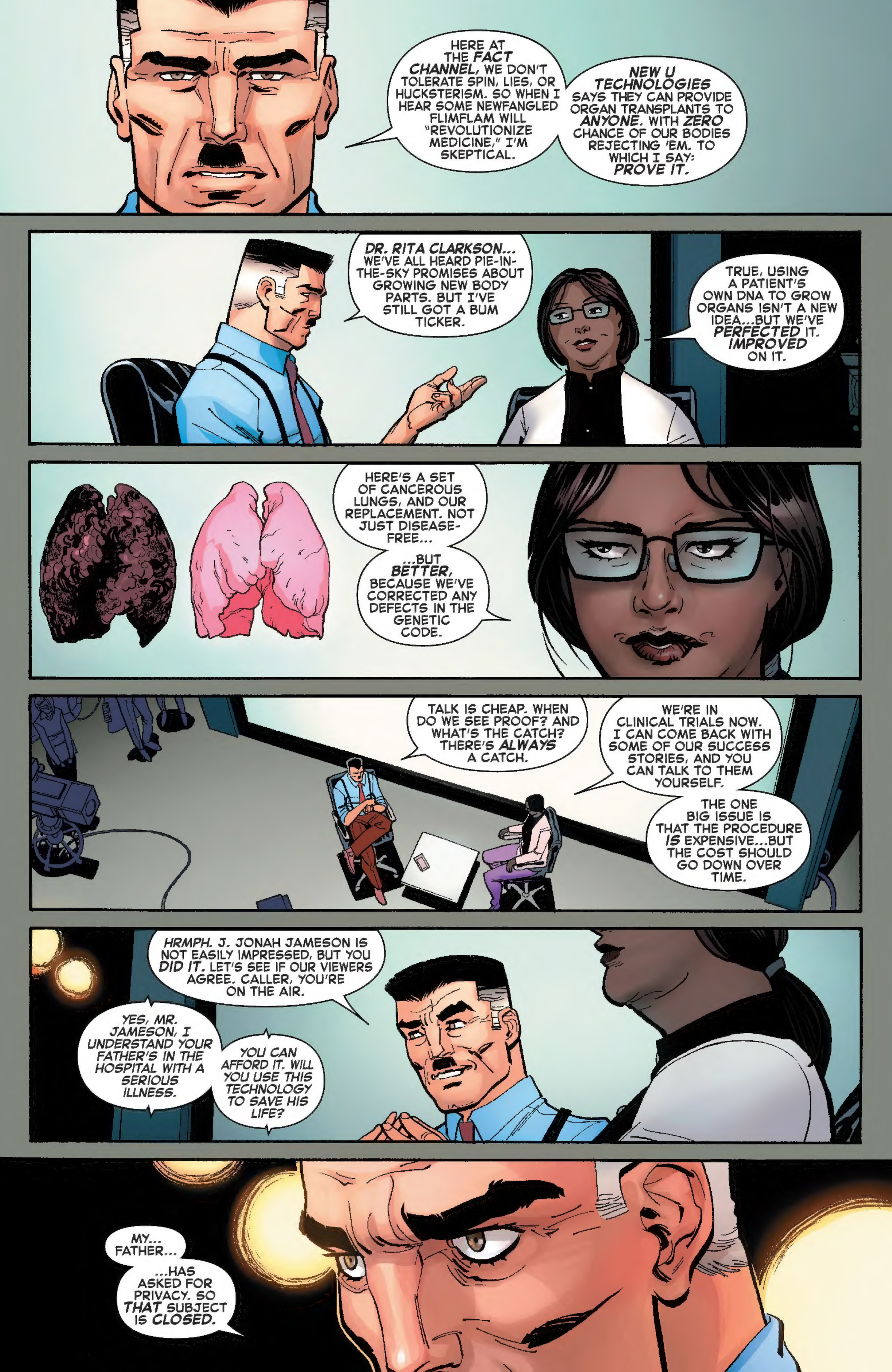
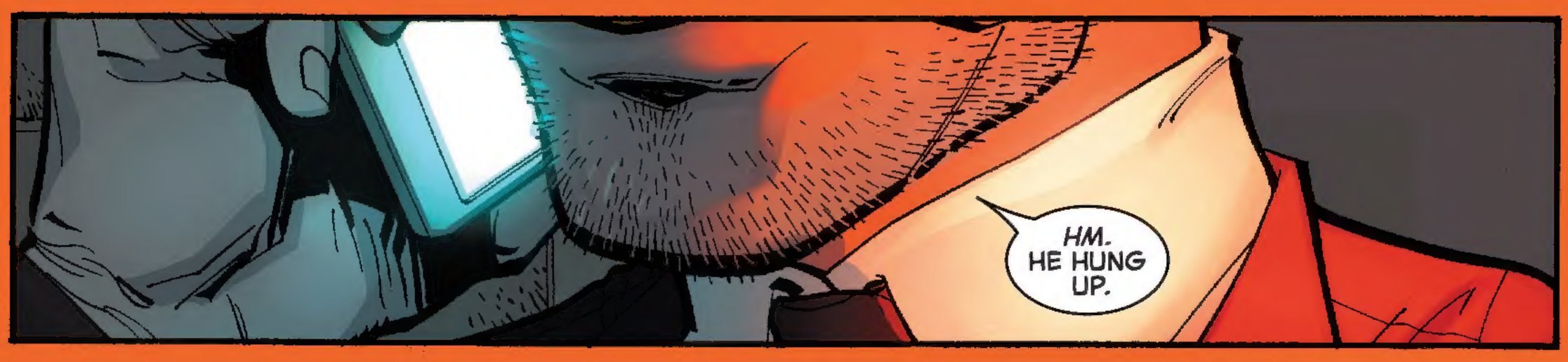

HERE AT THE FACT CHANNEL, WE DON'T TOLERATE SPIN, LIES, OR HUCKSTERISM. SO WHEN I HEAR SOME NEWFANGLED FLIMFLAM WILL "REVOLUTIONIZE MEDICINE," I'M SKEPTICAL.
NEW U TECHNOLOGIES SAYS THEY CAN PROVIDE ORGAN TRANSPLANTS TO ANYONE. WITH ZERO CHANCE OF OUR BODIES REJECTING 'EM. TO WHICH I SAY: PROVE IT.
DR. RITA CLARKSON... WE'VE ALL HEARD PIE-IN-THE-SKY PROMISES ABOUT GROWING NEW BODY PARTS. BUT I'VE STILL GOT A BUM TICKER.
TRUE, USING A PATIENT'S OWN DNA TO GROW ORGANS ISN'T A NEW IDEA...BUT WE'VE PERFECTED IT. IMPROVED ON IT.
HERE'S A SET OF CANCEROUS LUNGS, AND OUR REPLACEMENT. NOT JUST DISEASE-FREE...
...BUT BETTER, BECAUSE WE'VE CORRECTED ANY DEFECTS IN THE GENETIC CODE.
TALK IS CHEAP. WHEN DO WE SEE PROOF? AND WHAT'S THE CATCH? THERE'S ALWAYS A CATCH.
WE'RE IN CLINICAL TRIALS NOW. I CAN COME BACK WITH SOME OF OUR SUCCESS STORIES, AND YOU CAN TALK TO THEM YOURSELF.
THE ONE BIG ISSUE IS THAT THE PROCEDURE IS EXPENSIVE...BUT THE COST SHOULD GO DOWN OVER TIME.
HRMPH. J. JONAH JAMESON IS NOT EASILY IMPRESSED, BUT YOU DID IT. LET'S SEE IF OUR VIEWERS AGREE. CALLER, YOU'RE ON THE AIR.
YES, MR. JAMESON, I UNDERSTAND YOUR FATHER'S IN THE HOSPITAL WITH A SERIOUS ILLNESS.
YOU CAN AFFORD IT. WILL YOU USE THIS TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE HIS LIFE?
MY... FATHER...
...HAS ASKED FOR PRIVACY. SO THAT SUBJECT IS CLOSED.



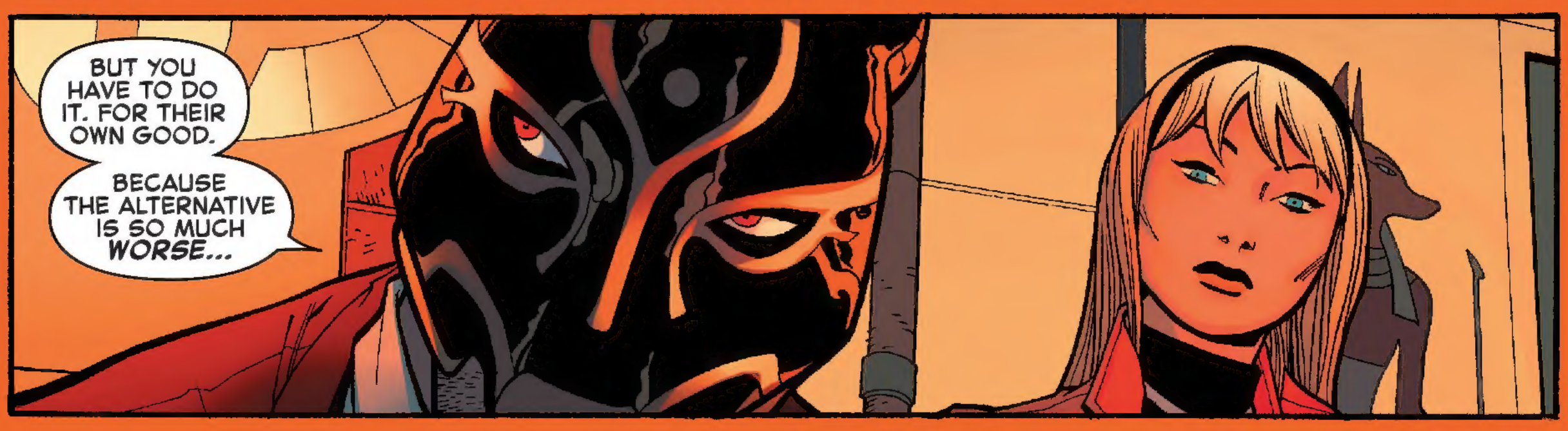
CHARGE THIS, DUPE.

RIGHT AWAY, SIR.

THAT WASN'T VERY NICE, *JACKAL*. JONAH'S GOING THROUGH A LOT. DID YOU HAVE TO PUSH HIM SO HARD?

HONESTLY, GWEN? I DID.

HAVE YOU EVER GIVEN PILLS TO A CAT? THEY WAIL LIKE YOU'RE TORTURING THEM.



MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL. THE PRIVATE ROOM OF JAY JAMESON SR.

--OH, AND THE CONDO ASSOCIATION APPROVED OUR BATHROOM REMODEL. *FINALLY.*

ABOUT TIME. DON'T LET THE CONTRACTOR LAY THE TILE, THOUGH. I'M GOING TO DO THAT MYSELF.

DEAR, THERE ISN'T ANYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD I'D WANT DOING IT.

EXCUSE ME, HONEY. I JUST WANT TO CHECK IN WITH PETER. HE SAID HE WAS COMING BY, AND YOU KNOW HOW I WORRY ABOUT HIM.

HA. HE'S A GROWN MAN, MAY...AND A *BUSY* ONE. I'M SURE EVERYTHING'S FINE.

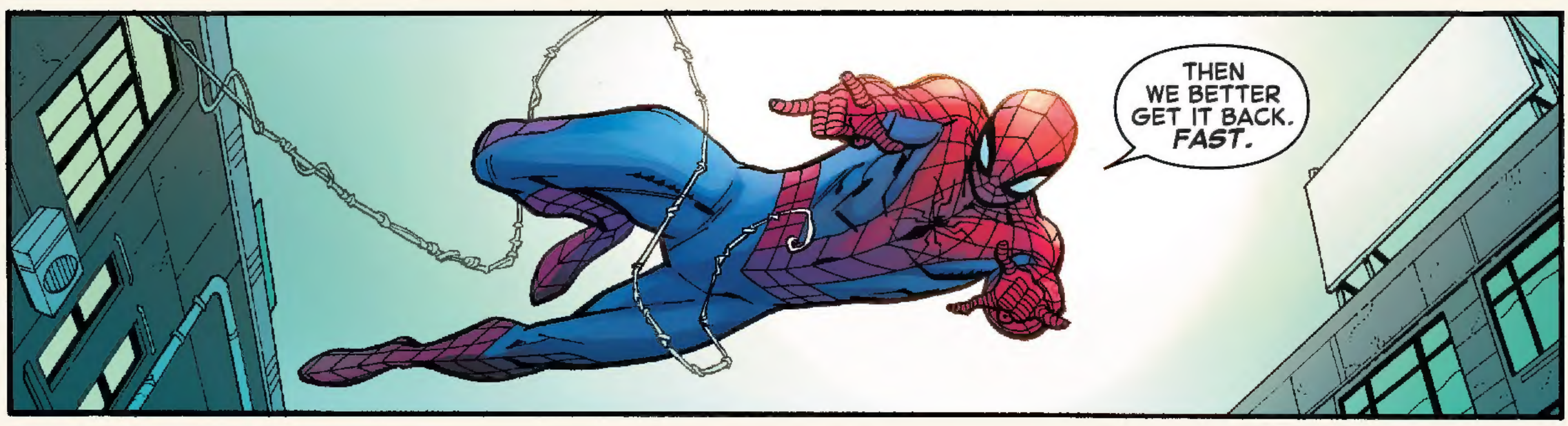
PETER? WHERE *ARE* YOU? JAY'S TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE. WE...WE REALLY NEED YOU HERE.

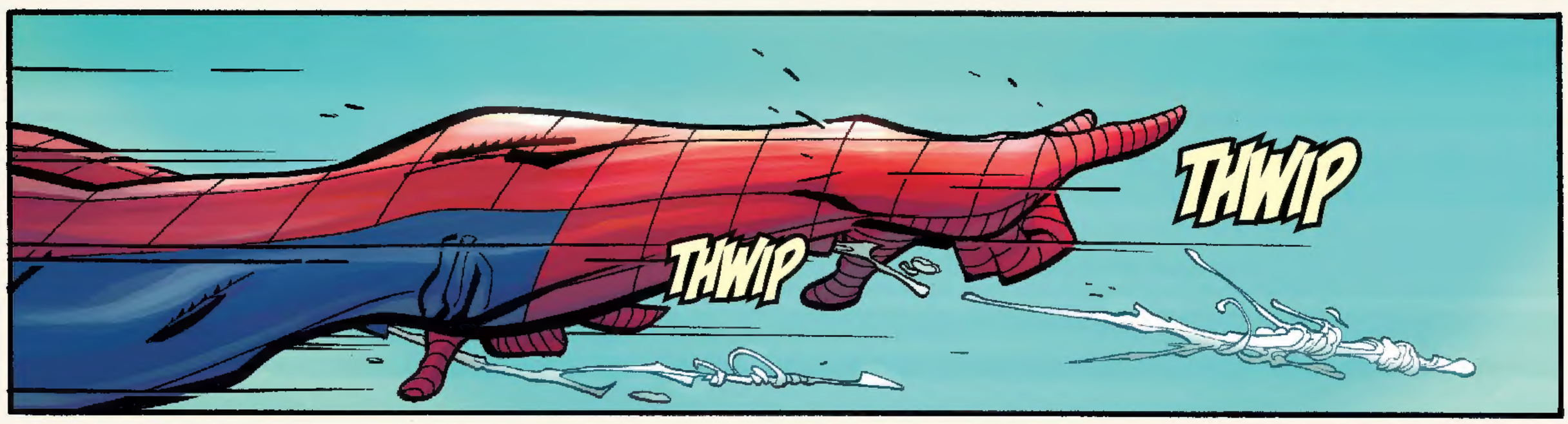
ON MY WAY, AUNT MAY. JUST FIGHTING TRAFFIC...

...AND TRAFFIC HASN'T GOT A CHANCE.
I'LL BE THERE. WHATEVER IT TAKES.
FINAL SALE

STOP! THIEF!
TAKE CARE OF JAY, MAY. I'LL SEE YOU SOON.

BODEGA
BODEGA
ATM
THIEF! THAT'S ALL MY MONEY!


THEN WE BETTER GET IT BACK. FAST.


THWIP
THWIP

THWAP
ACK!
UGH!
THWAP

HEY! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
THE KID IN THE HAT'S MY SON! HE WAS CHASING THE ROBBER!

NORMALLY I WOULD. BUT THERE'S SOME-PLACE I REALLY GOTTA BE.

PUNK! MENACE! JAMESON'S RIGHT! YOU DON'T CARE *WHO* YOU HURT!

YO, *RECORD* THIS.

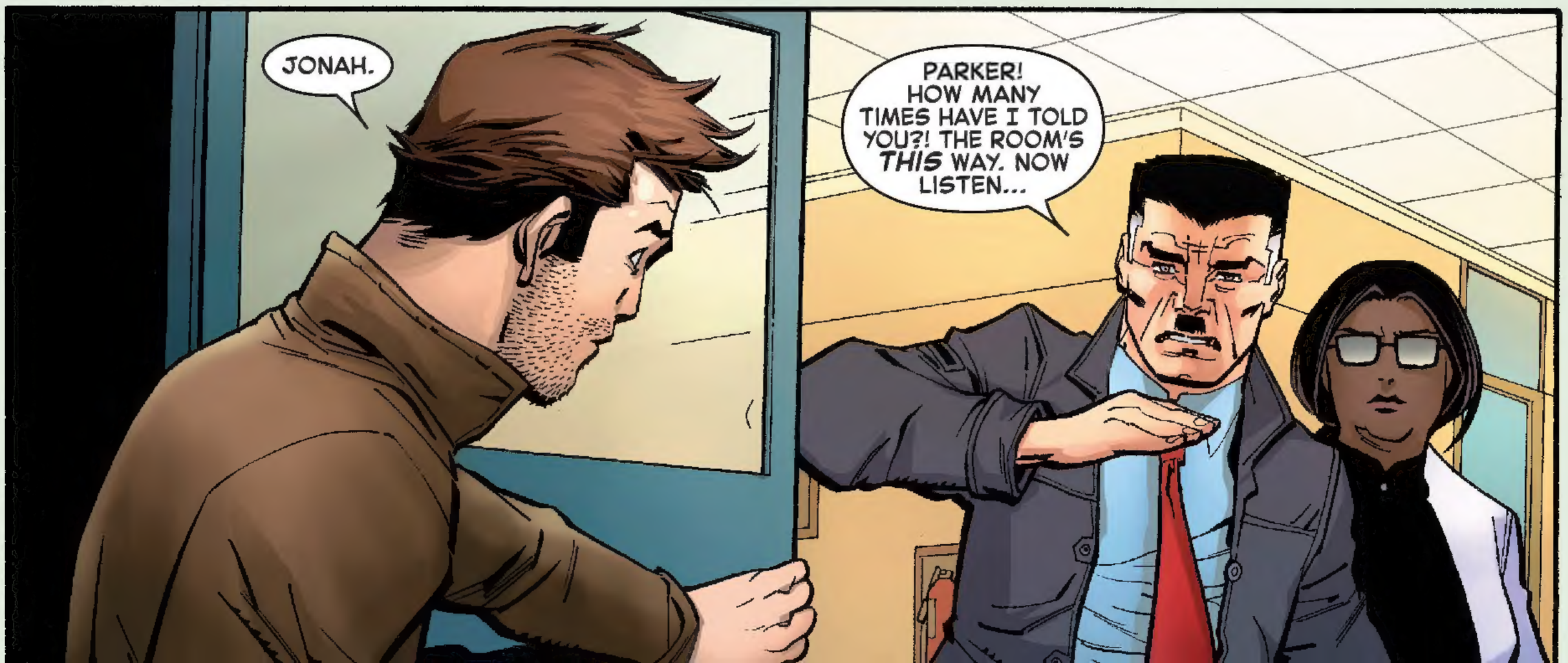
SERIOUSLY? YOU'RE KIDDING ME!

DUDE, YOU ARE *SO* GETTING PUBLICLY SHAMED FOR THIS!

AND ONCE AGAIN NEW YORKERS HATE ME FOR, WELL...SCREWING UP. CAN'T BLAME 'EM. BUT RIGHT NOW...

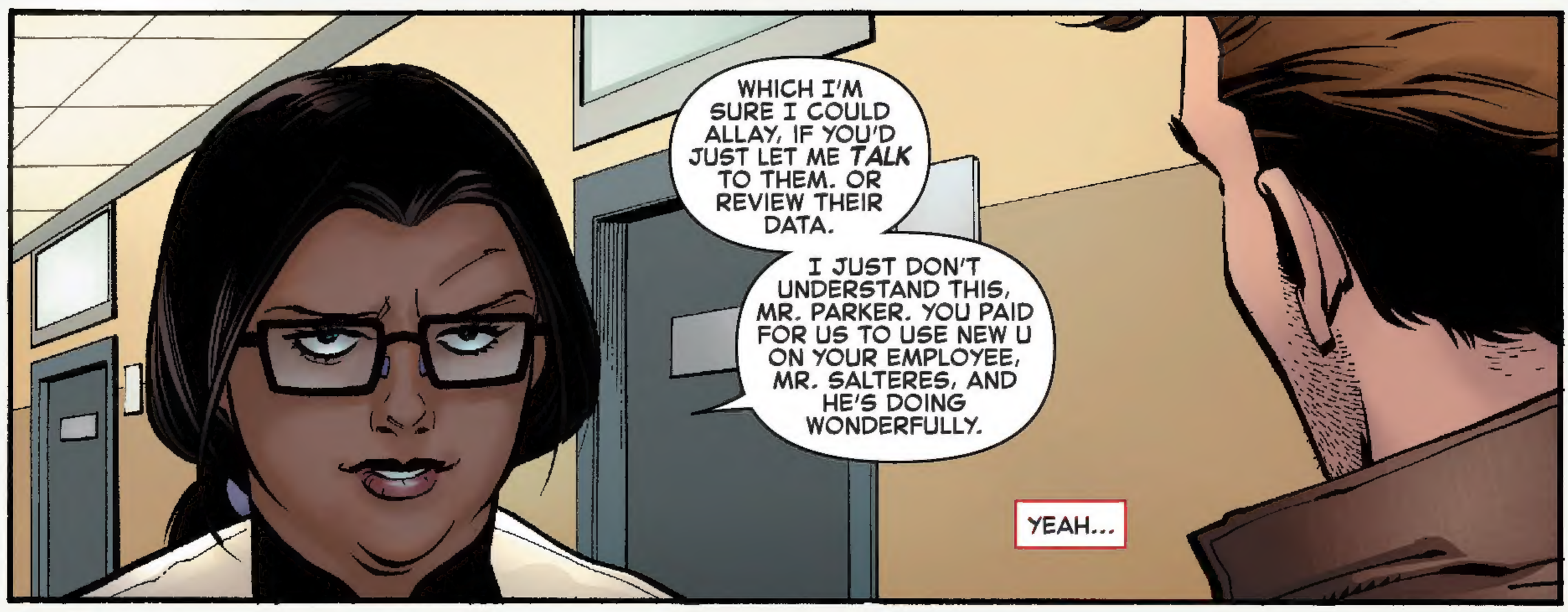
...*MY* PROBLEMS NEED TO TAKE A BACK SEAT. JAY'S LITERALLY FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE IN THERE.

AND BECAUSE I'M THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF THE FAMILY, HE AND AUNT MAY TRUST ME TO TELL THEM WHAT TO DO.



HE'S MY FATHER! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE, THAT YOU KEEP TELLING HIM NOT TO USE NEW U--
--OR THAT HE LISTENS TO YOU!

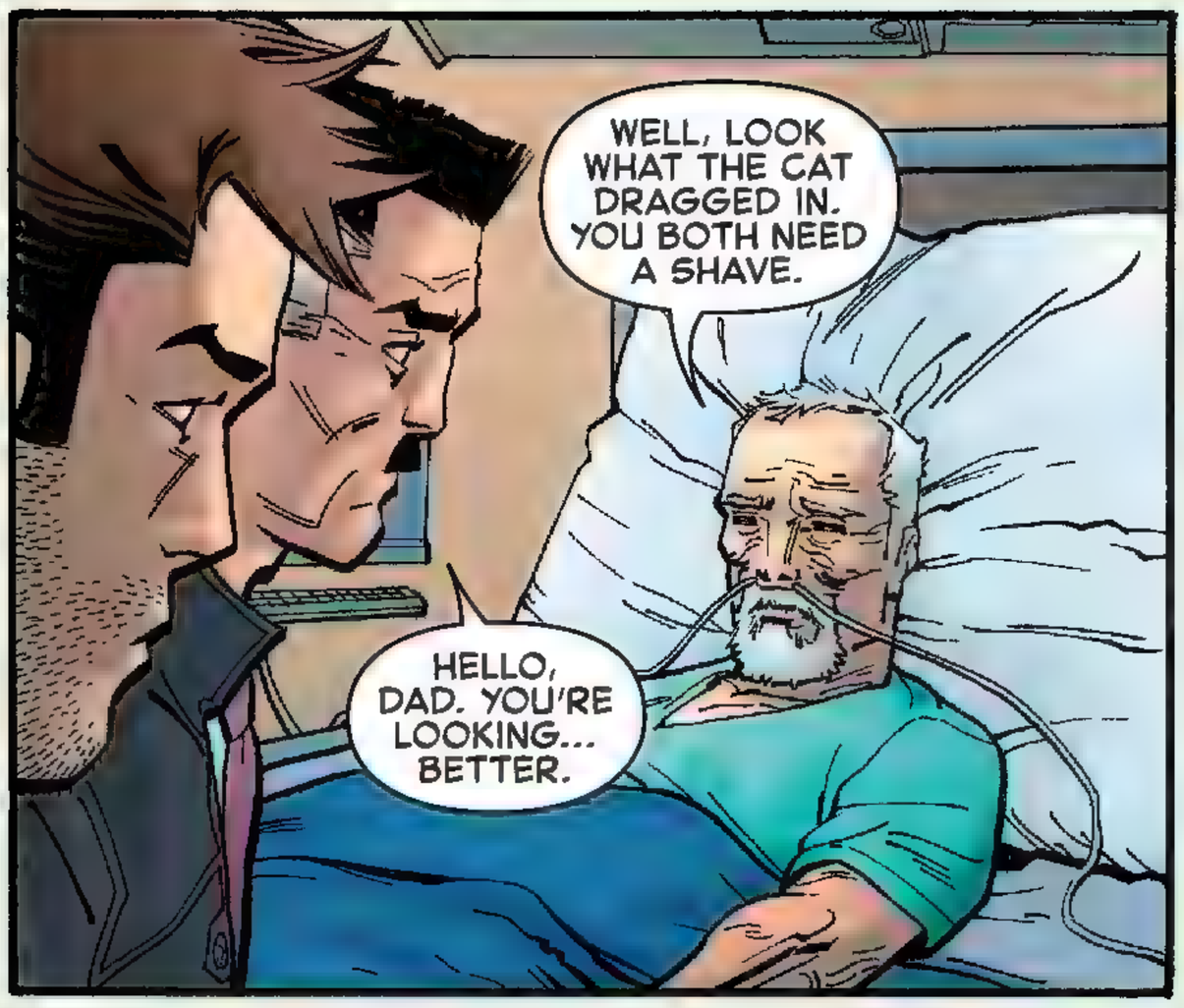
IT'S EXPERIMENTAL. AND THERE ARE GOOD, ESTABLISHED TREATMENTS. I JUST DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING WE CAN'T UNDO.
I'VE HAD PARKER INDUSTRIES' TOP MINDS LOOK INTO THIS. THEY HAVE... CONCERNS.

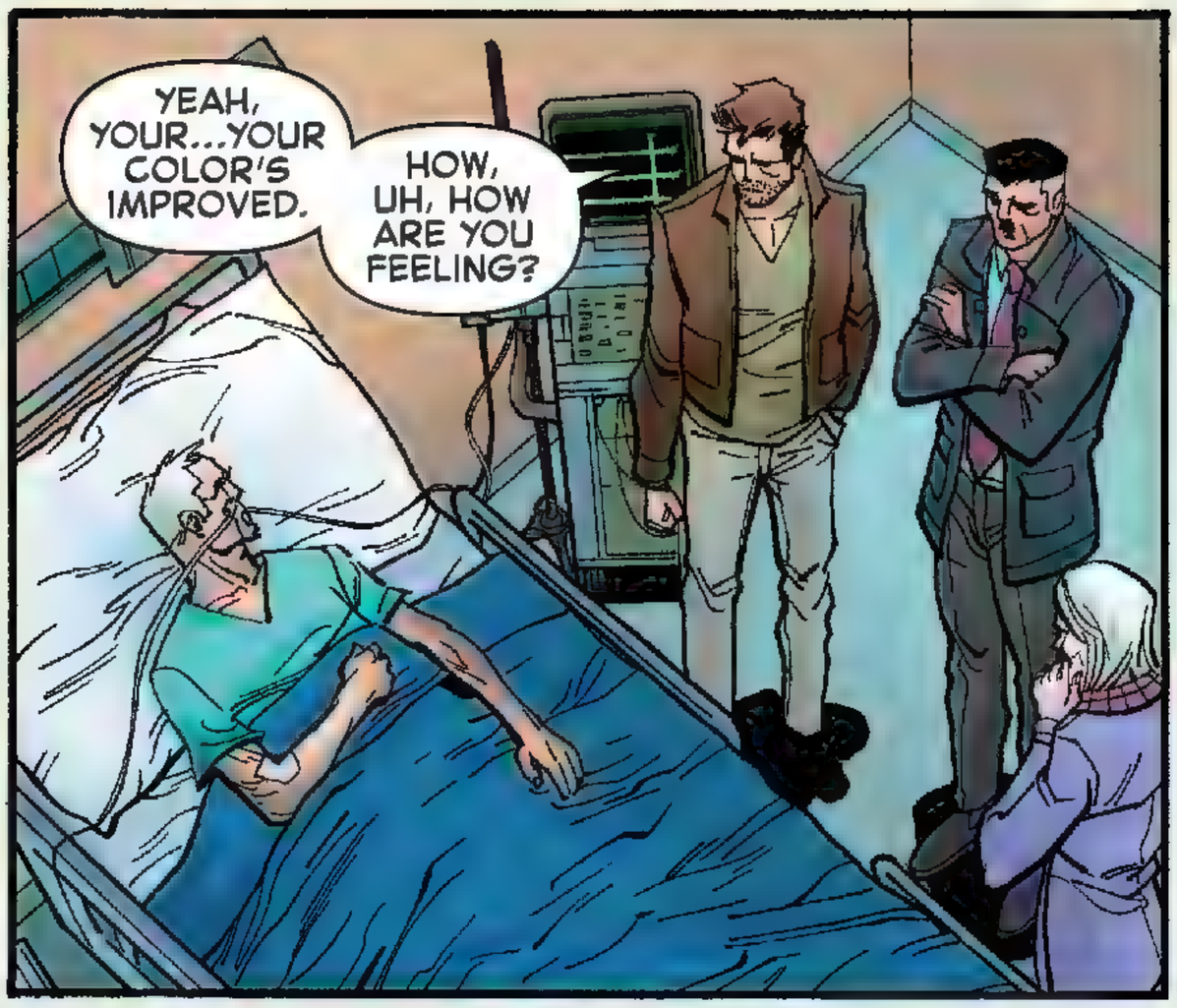

WHICH I'M SURE I COULD ALLAY, IF YOU'D JUST LET ME TALK TO THEM. OR REVIEW THEIR DATA.
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS, MR. PARKER. YOU PAID FOR US TO USE NEW U ON YOUR EMPLOYEE, MR. SALTERES, AND HE'S DOING WONDERFULLY.
YEAH...

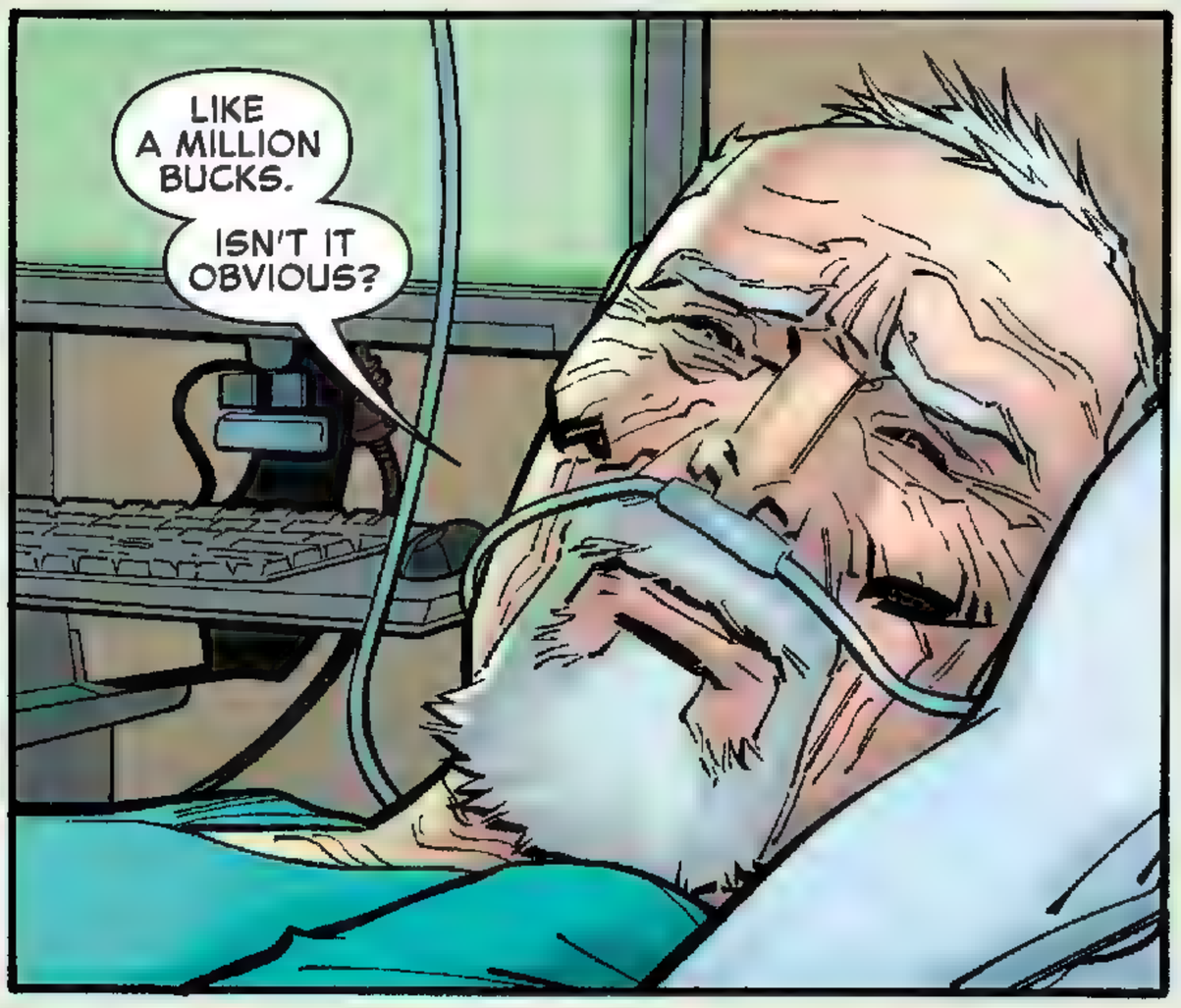
...EXCEPT I CAN'T TELL THEM THE REAL CONCERN. THAT EVERY TIME I'M NEAR HIM, MY SPIDER-SENSE GOES TO ELEVEN.

I'M SORRY, DR. CLARKSON, BUT THE DATA USES PROPRIETARY PARKER INDUSTRIES TECH. I...CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY MORE DETAILS.
LOOK, I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU BOTH FEEL, BUT CAN WE PUT THIS ASIDE FOR A FEW MINUTES? JAY REALLY NEEDS US NOW...AND SO DOES AUNT--

BOYS! I'M SO HAPPY YOU'RE HERE. AND JAY WILL BE, TOO. COME IN, COME IN.
HRMPH...

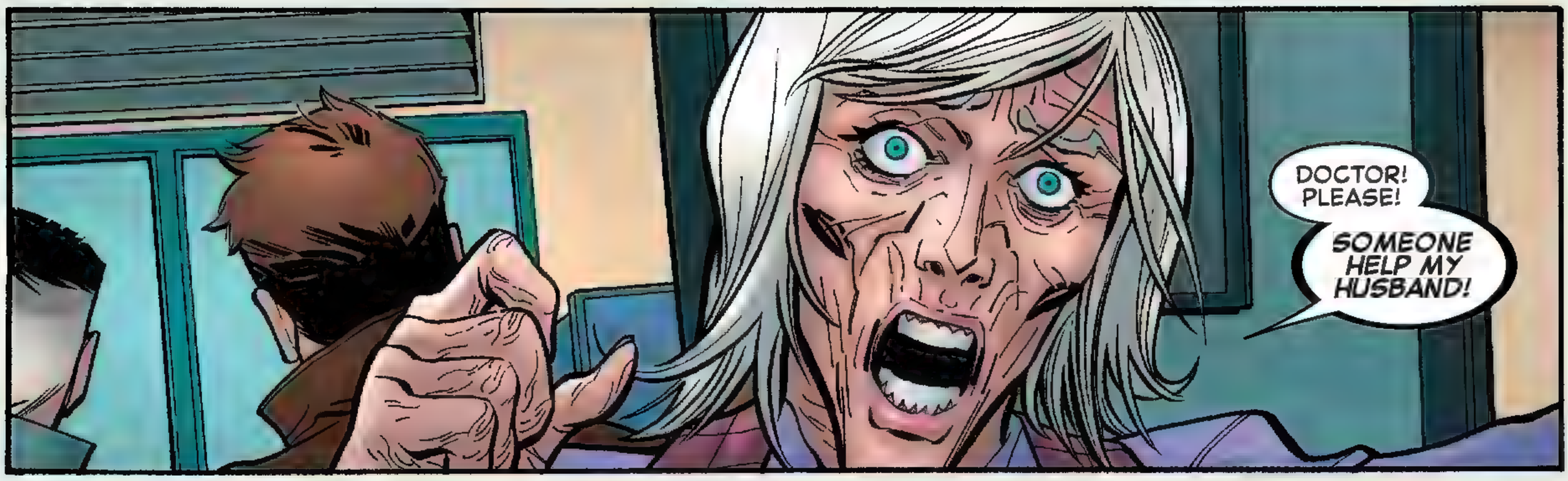

WELL, LOOK WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN. YOU BOTH NEED A SHAVE.
HELLO, DAD. YOU'RE LOOKING... BETTER.


YEAH, YOUR...YOUR COLOR'S IMPROVED.
HOW, UH, HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

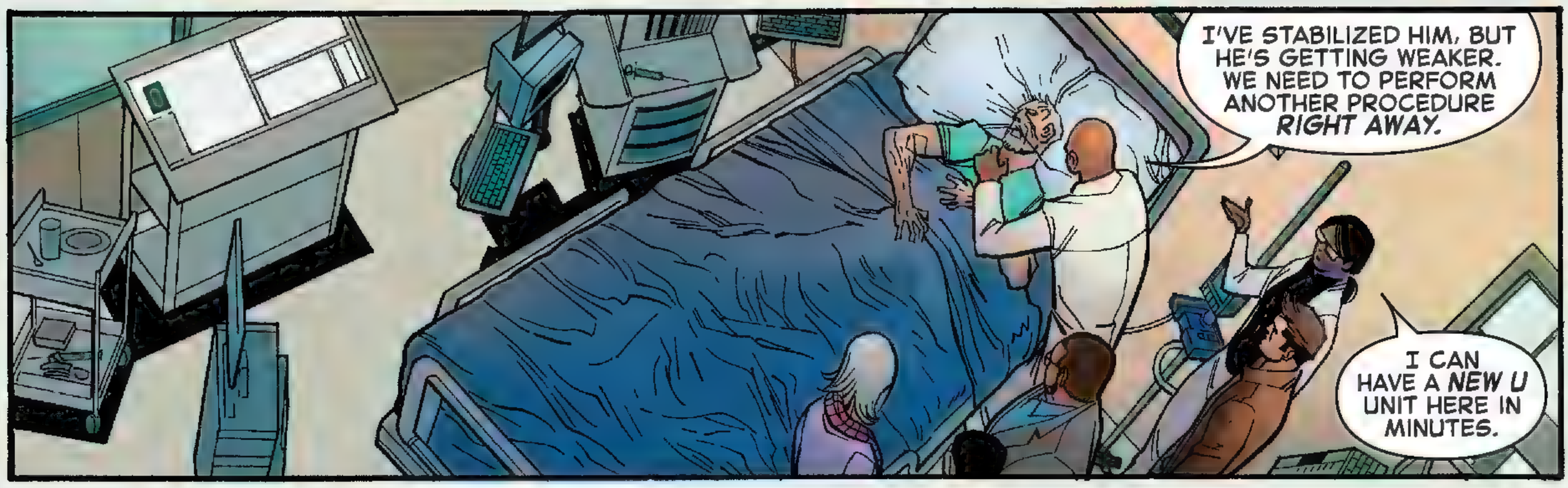

LIKE A MILLION BUCKS.
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

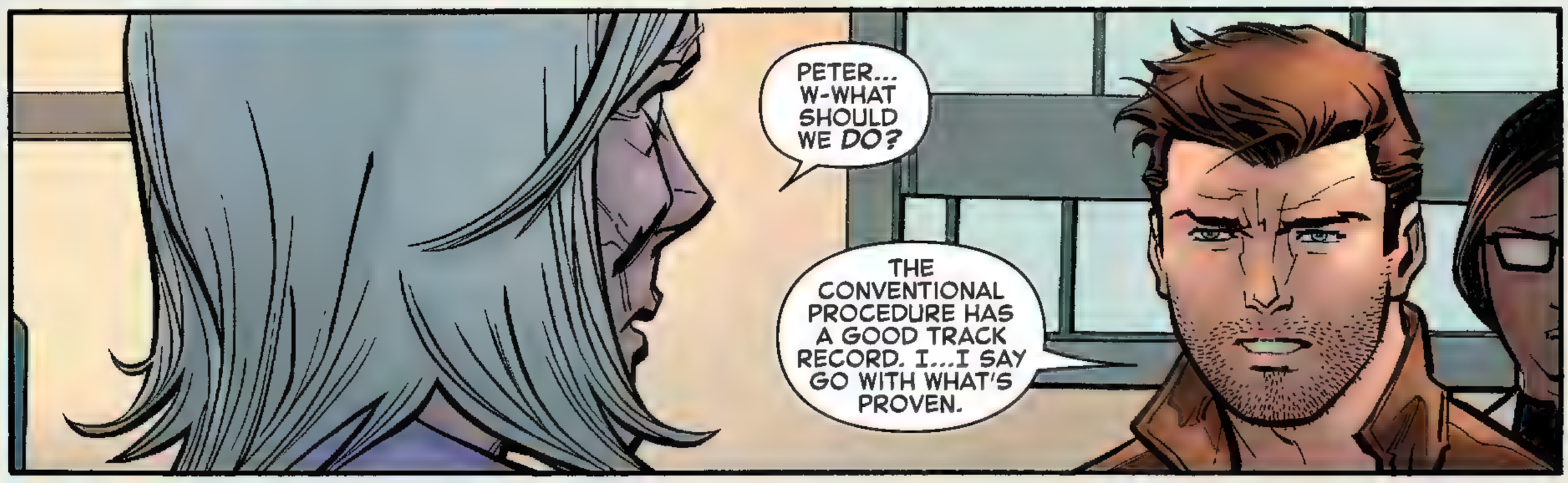
THAT'S IT. I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE! TELL HIM, PARKER! TELL HIM TO GO WITH NEW U RIGHT NOW!
CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE PROLONGING HIS SUFFERING? AND TORTURING YOUR OWN AUNT?
SON, CALM DOWN! I'M F--

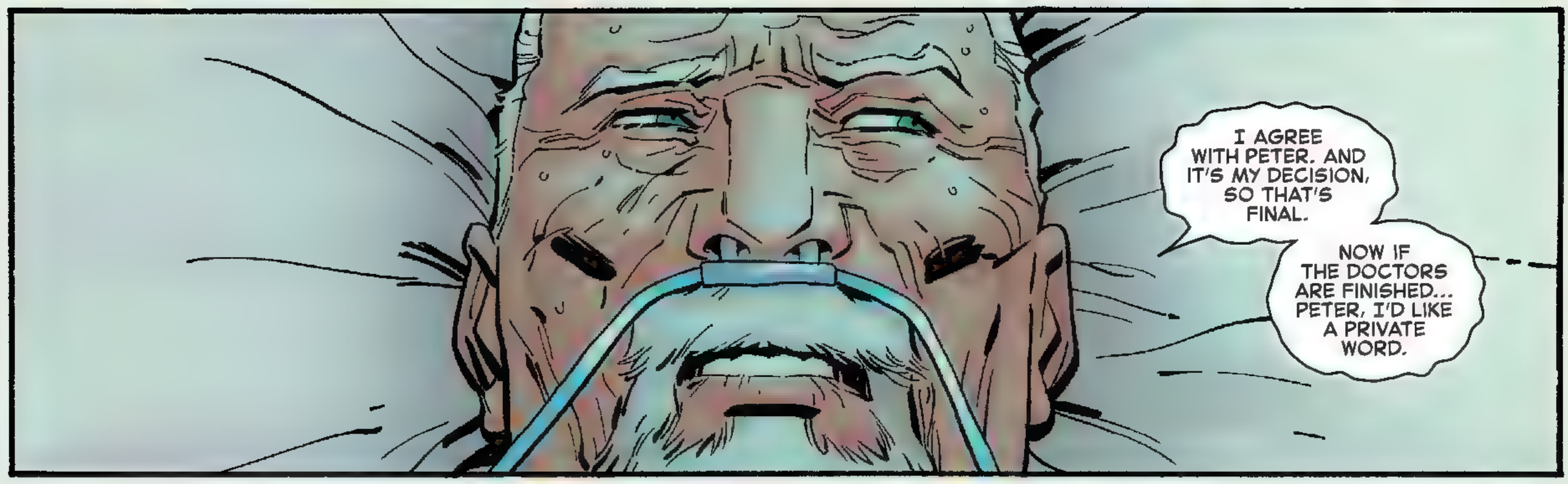
--GKKK!
BEEP BEEEP BEEEEEE


DOCTOR! PLEASE!
SOMEONE HELP MY HUSBAND!

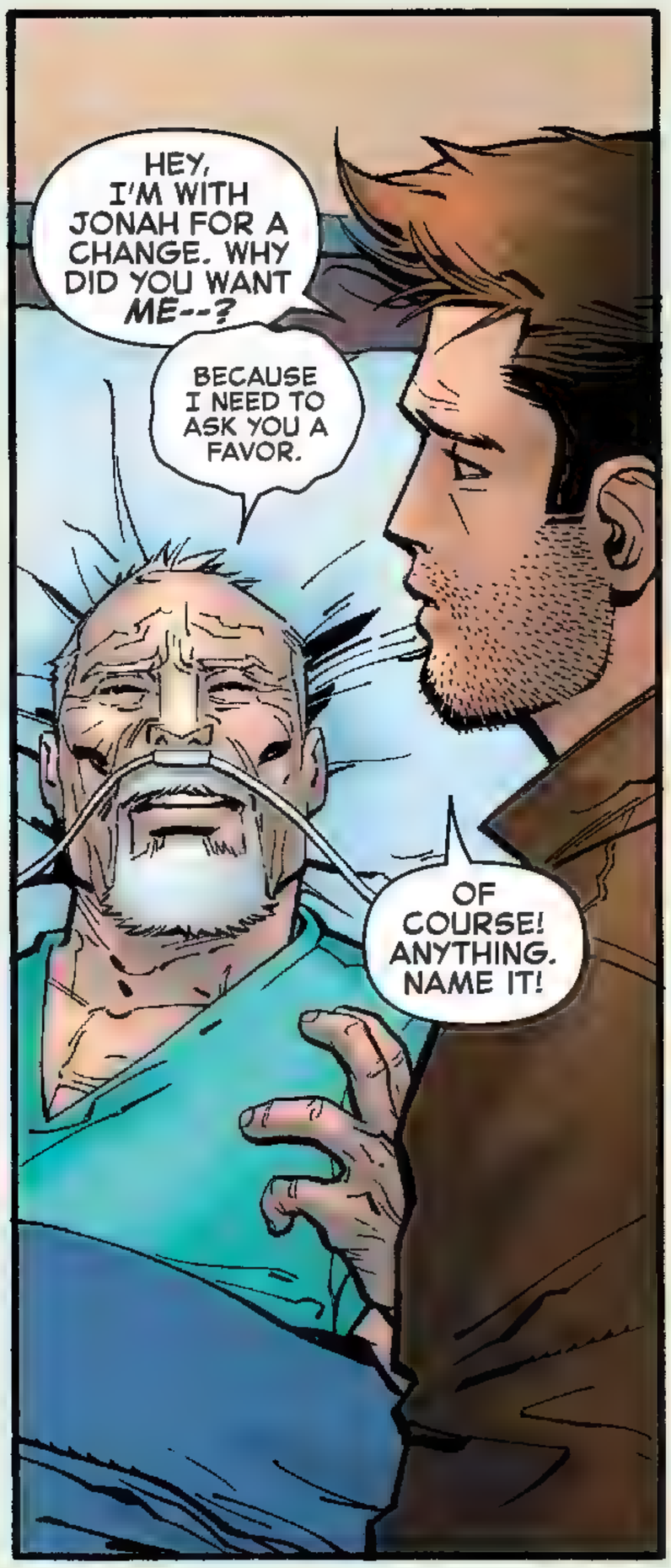
GIVE US ROOM!
DOCTOR, WHAT'S GOING ON? WILL MY FATHER BE ALL RIGHT? I WANT ANSWERS!


I'VE STABILIZED HIM, BUT HE'S GETTING WEAKER. WE NEED TO PERFORM ANOTHER PROCEDURE RIGHT AWAY.
I CAN HAVE A NEW U UNIT HERE IN MINUTES.


PETER... W-WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THE CONVENTIONAL PROCEDURE HAS A GOOD TRACK RECORD. I...I SAY GO WITH WHAT'S PROVEN.

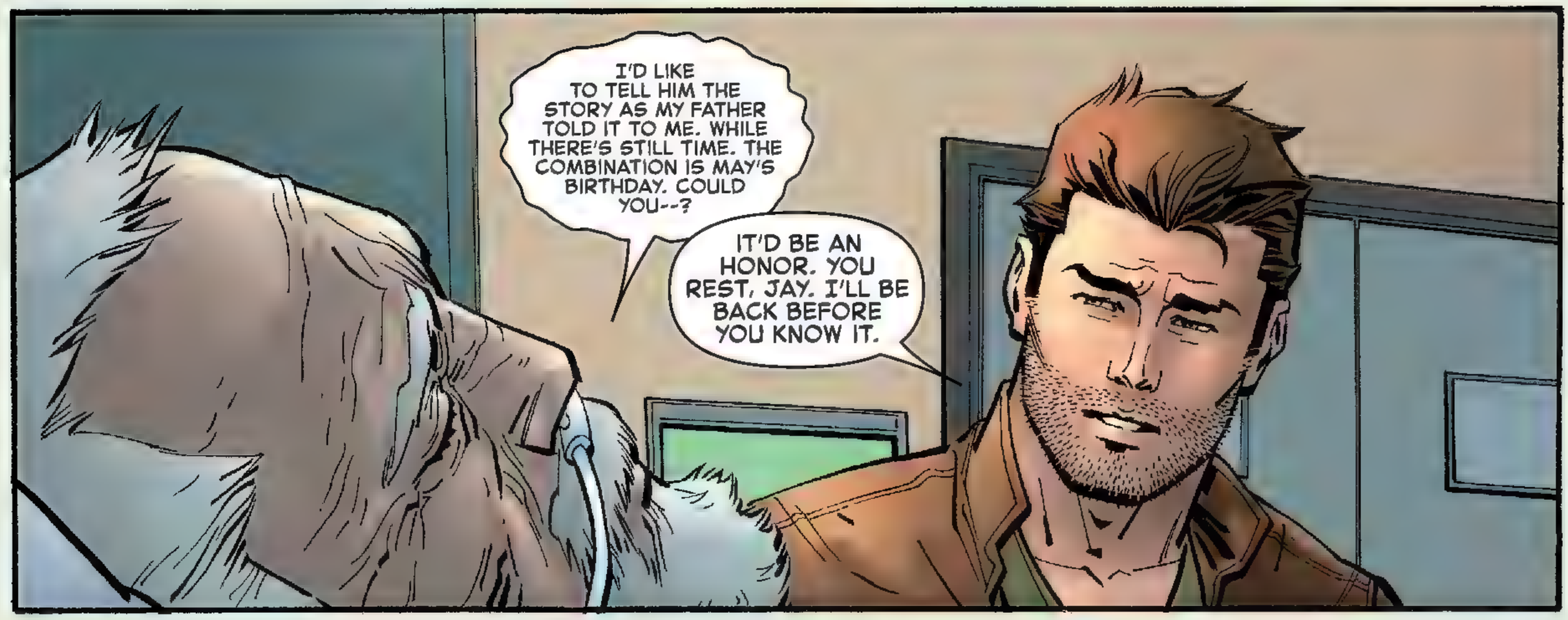

I AGREE WITH PETER. AND IT'S MY DECISION, SO THAT'S FINAL.
NOW IF THE DOCTORS ARE FINISHED... PETER, I'D LIKE A PRIVATE WORD.

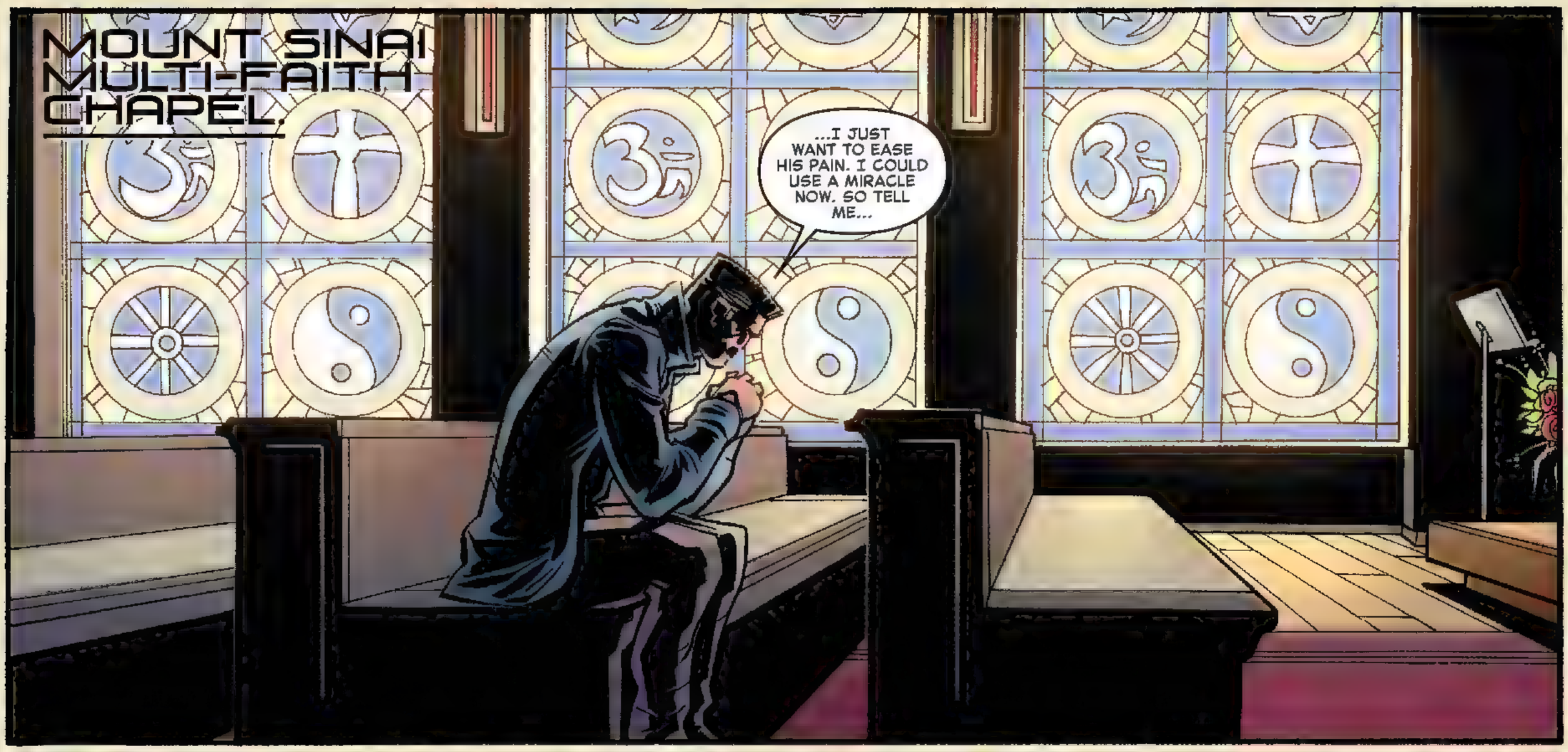
I'M HIS SON, DAGBLAST IT! WHY DOES HE WANT TO TALK TO HIM?
HE'LL WANT TO SEE YOU, TOO, JONAH. PLEASE, LET'S JUST RESPECT HIS WISHES.


HEY, I'M WITH JONAH FOR A CHANGE. WHY DID YOU WANT ME--?
BECAUSE I NEED TO ASK YOU A FAVOR.
OF COURSE! ANYTHING. NAME IT!

I'VE STAYED UPBEAT FOR MAY, BUT I'M NO FOOL. I MIGHT NOT HAVE MUCH TIME HERE.
I NEED SOMEONE TO RUN AN ERRAND. AND I'D LIKE MY WIFE AND SON HERE IN CASE... YOU KNOW.
WHAT CAN I DO?

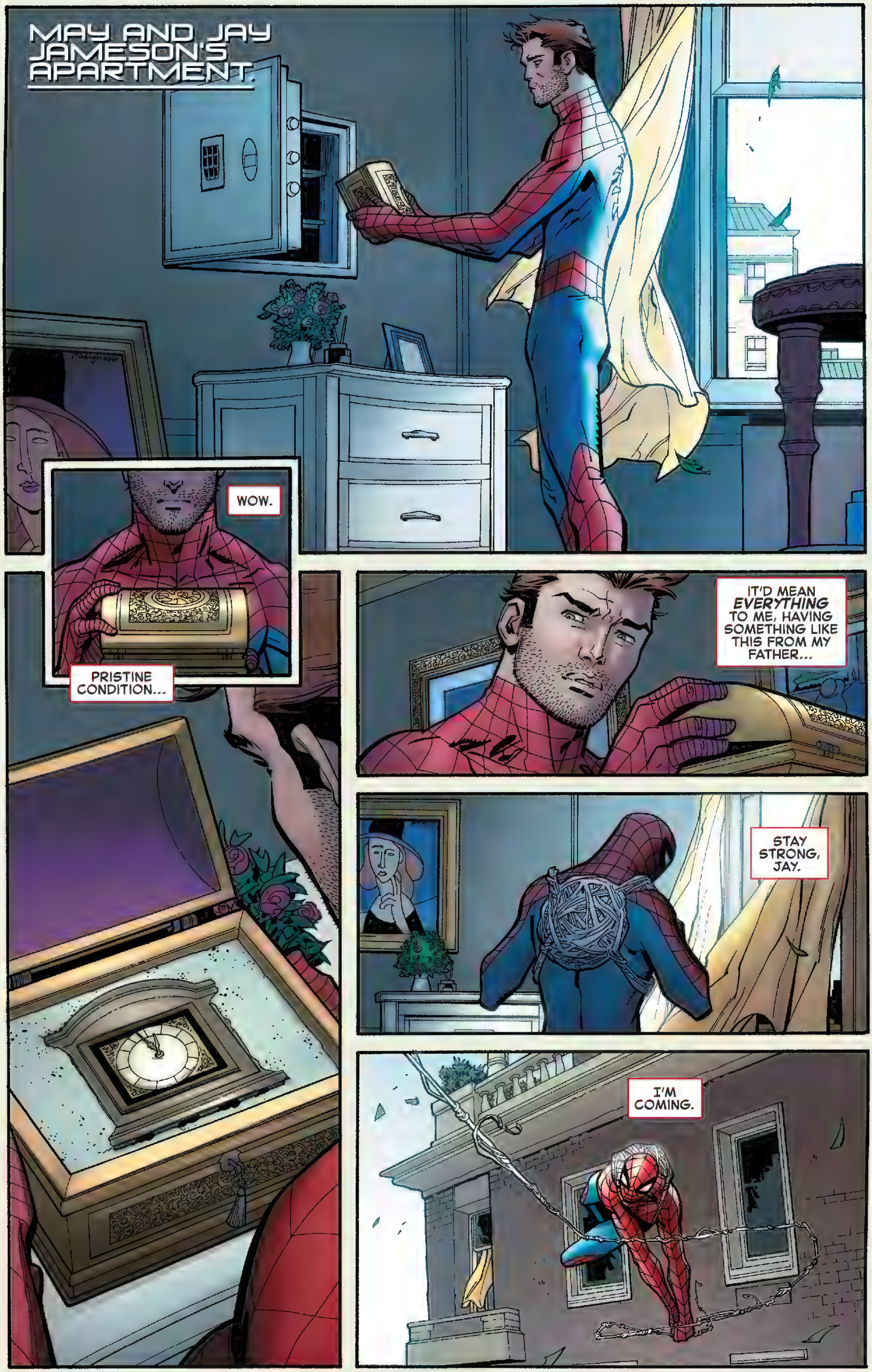
IN THE SAFE IN OUR APARTMENT, THERE'S AN OLD FAMILY HEIRLOOM. A CLOCK THAT THE FIRST JAMESON IN AMERICA BROUGHT OVER FROM IRELAND.
MY FATHER GAVE IT TO ME. I WANT TO GIVE IT TO JONAH. AND ONE DAY, HE CAN PASS IT ON TO HIS SON, JOHN.


I'D LIKE TO TELL HIM THE STORY AS MY FATHER TOLD IT TO ME. WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME. THE COMBINATION IS MAY'S BIRTHDAY. COULD YOU--?
IT'D BE AN HONOR. YOU REST, JAY. I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.


MOUNT SINAI MULTI-FAITH CHAPEL.
...I JUST WANT TO EASE HIS PAIN. I COULD USE A MIRACLE NOW. SO TELL ME...

...WHAT SHOULD I DO, MARLA?

YOU ALREADY KNOW, DEAR. I SAW YOUR SHOW. YOU EXPLAINED *NEW U* PERFECTLY. I COULD TELL YOU BELIEVED IT--
--BECAUSE YOU'VE SEEN IT BRING *ME* BACK TO LIFE. BRING US BACK *TOGETHER*. SO EVEN THOUGH IT'S TOO SOON TO TELL ANYONE THAT...
...YOU NEED TO USE YOUR *CONVICTION*, LIKE YOU DID ON THE AIR. REACH OUT TO PETER, OVER-COME HIS DOUBTS, AND *CONVINCE* HIM.
YOUR FATHER IS SUFFERING. *NEEDLESSLY*. YOU HAVE THE POWER TO SPARE HIM ALL THIS PAIN.
NOW END WITH A KISS.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL DO IT. I'LL MAKE PARKER SEE.
BY *ANY* MEANS NECESSARY.


MAY AND JAY JAMESON'S APARTMENT.
WOW.
PRISTINE CONDITION...
IT'D MEAN EVERYTHING TO ME, HAVING SOMETHING LIKE THIS FROM MY FATHER...
STAY STRONG, JAY.
I'M COMING.

MADISON AVENUE.
THE WIND'S TOO HIGH! WE NEED TO STOP WORK AND SECURE THE EQUIPMENT!
TO HELL WITH PROCEDURE. WE'RE WAY BEHIND SCHEDULE. WE NEED TO MAKE UP TIME!
"WHAT'S A LITTLE WIND GOING TO DO?"
RRNCCHH
BRRKNNCHH
KREEEE
OH, GOD.
ERIC!
I'M GONNA GUESS YOU'RE ERIC. STAY CALM...
...I GOT YOU.
THWIP
THWIP
KSSHHH
AND NOTHING'S GOT ME. EXTERIOR WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH...
...LET'S PRAY THAT GIRDER IS.
THWIP

GGNNAAAAA!

YEAH! IT CAN HANDLE THE WEIGHT ALL RIGHT...

...WAY BETTER *THAN ME!*

ERIC! HEAR THOSE SIRENS? FIREMEN ARE ON THE WAY! JUST HOLD ON...A LITTLE LONGER...

BEEEEP

AUNT MAY? WHAT'S--

PETER! JAY'S GOTTEN WORSE. JONAH SAYS TO GO WITH *NEW U*--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

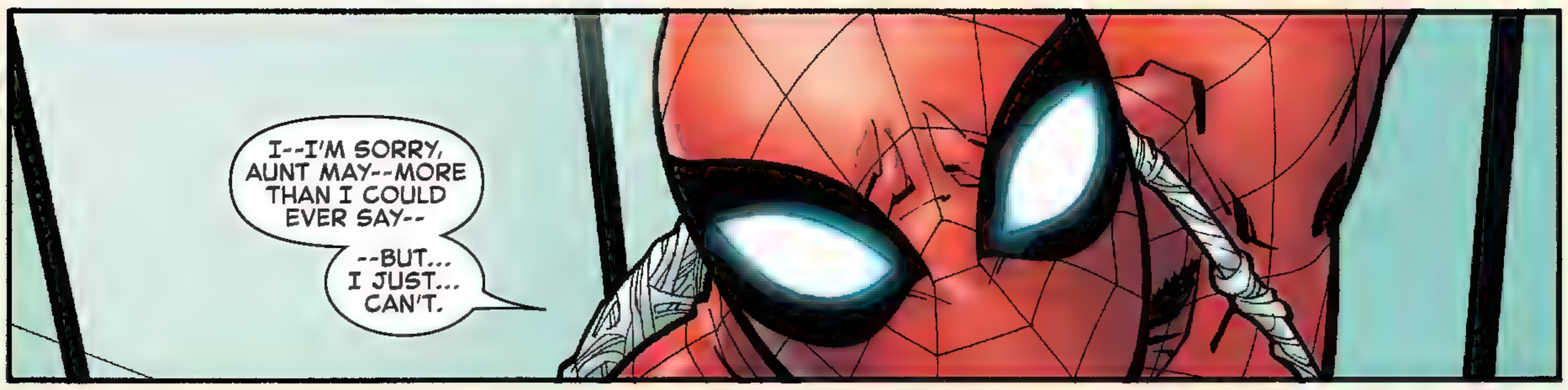
YOU HEARD JAY! TH-THE CONVENTIONAL PROCEDURE!

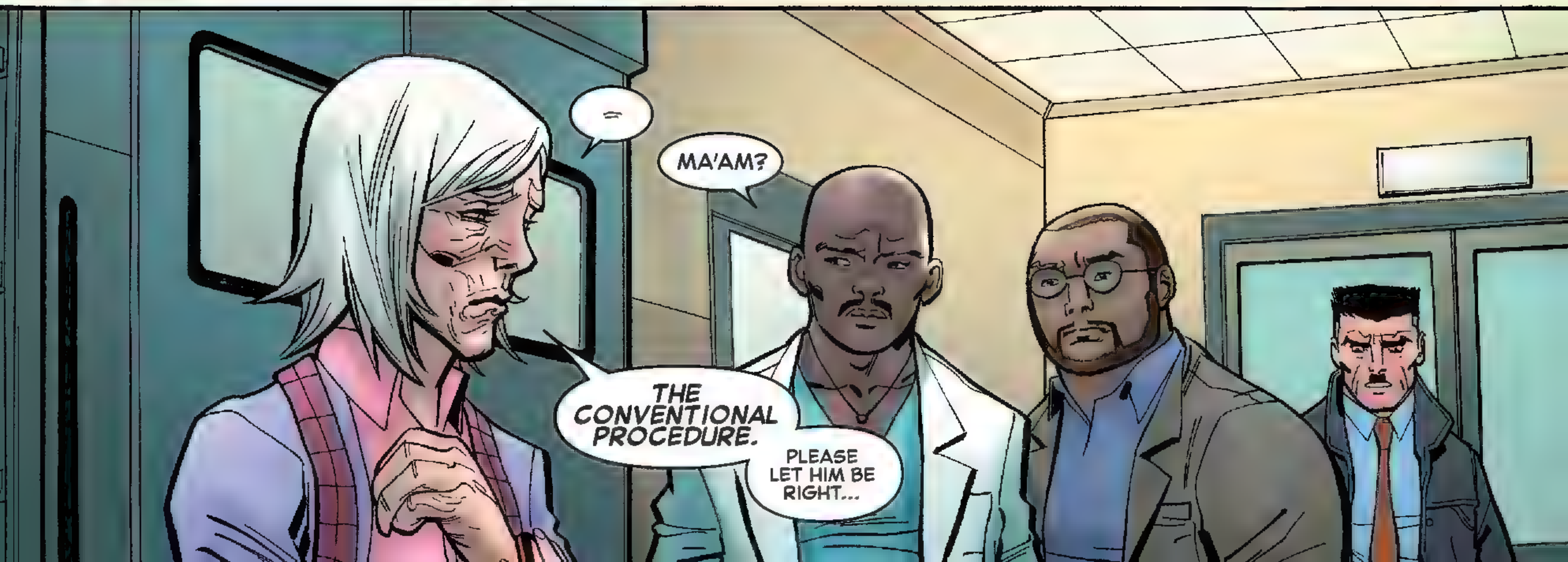
BUT IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ONE OF YOUR *EMPLOYEES?!* YOU SIGNED OFF ON IT THEN! *WHY ISN'T IT RIGHT FOR MY HUSBAND?!*

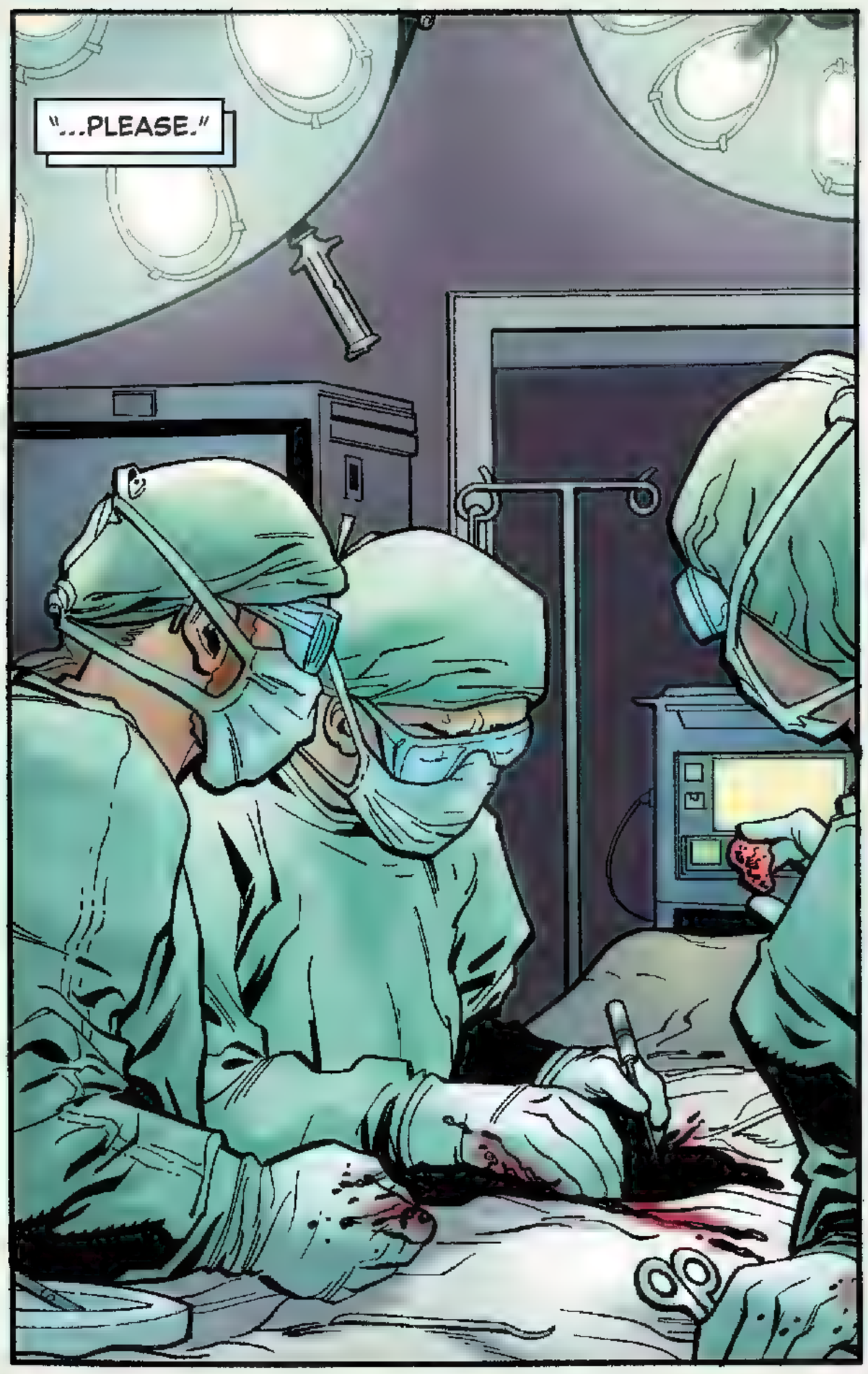
IMPACT AREA'S CLEAR! GO GET THE CRANE OPERATOR!

JEEZ, HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT FOREVER. SUPER-GUY OR NOT...

...HOW LONG CAN SPIDEY HOLD OUT?





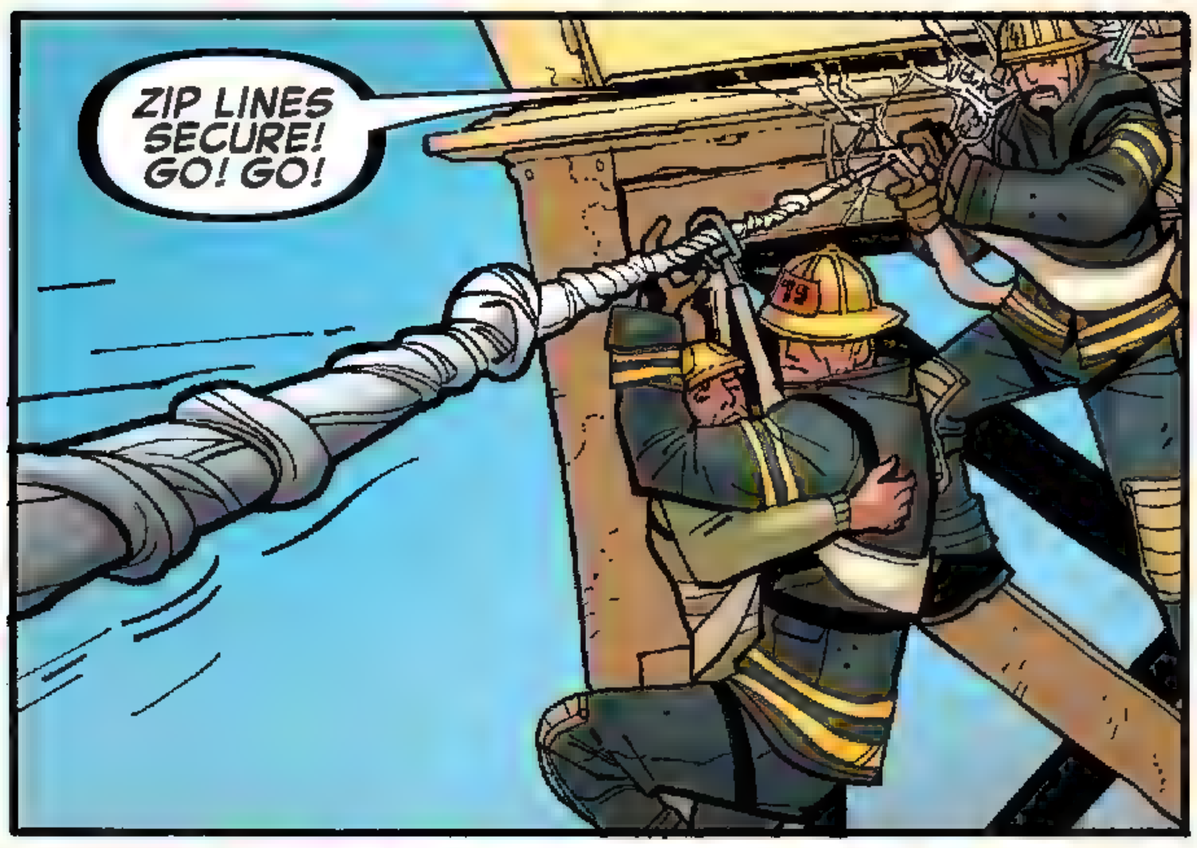

"...PLEASE."

ALMOST THERE, BUDDY! HOLD ON!

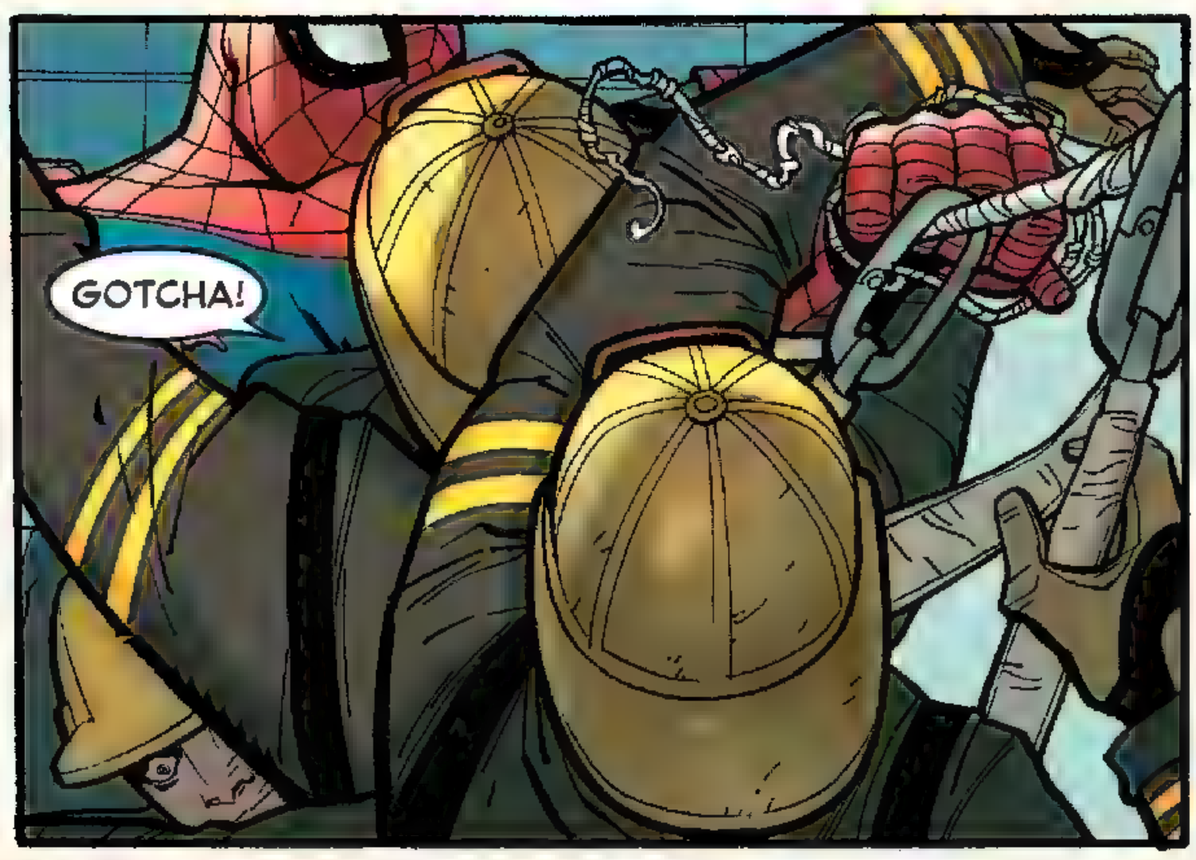
PARKER! PICK UP *RIGHT NOW!*
THE *NEW U* PEOPLE ARE IN THE HOSPITAL! THERE'S STILL TIME! YOU HAVE TO CONVINCE YOUR AUNT! *WE KNOW IT WORKS!*

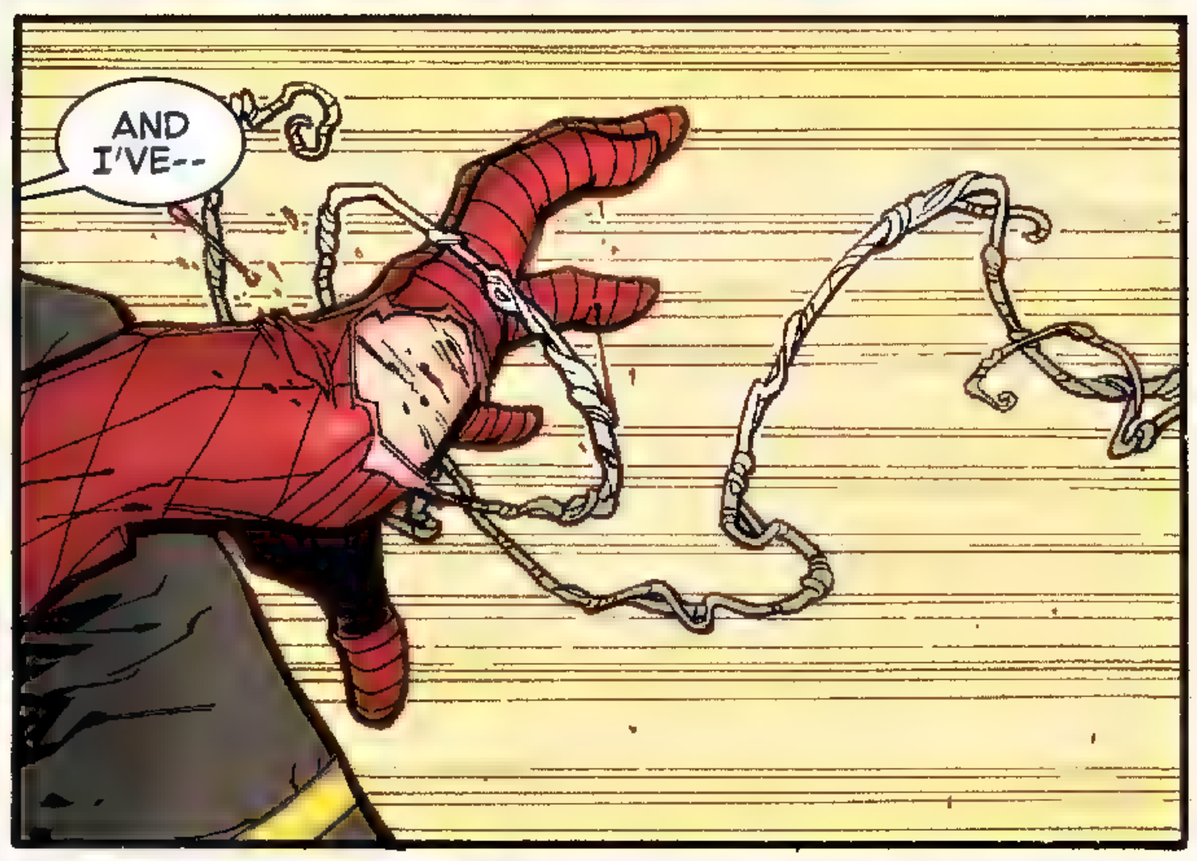
DAMN IT, PARKER, THIS IS MY FATHER! WHAT IF IT WAS YOUR FATHER? OR YOUR UNCLE BEN?
WOULD YOU GAMBLE WITH THEIR LIVES LIKE THIS? WOULD YOU?

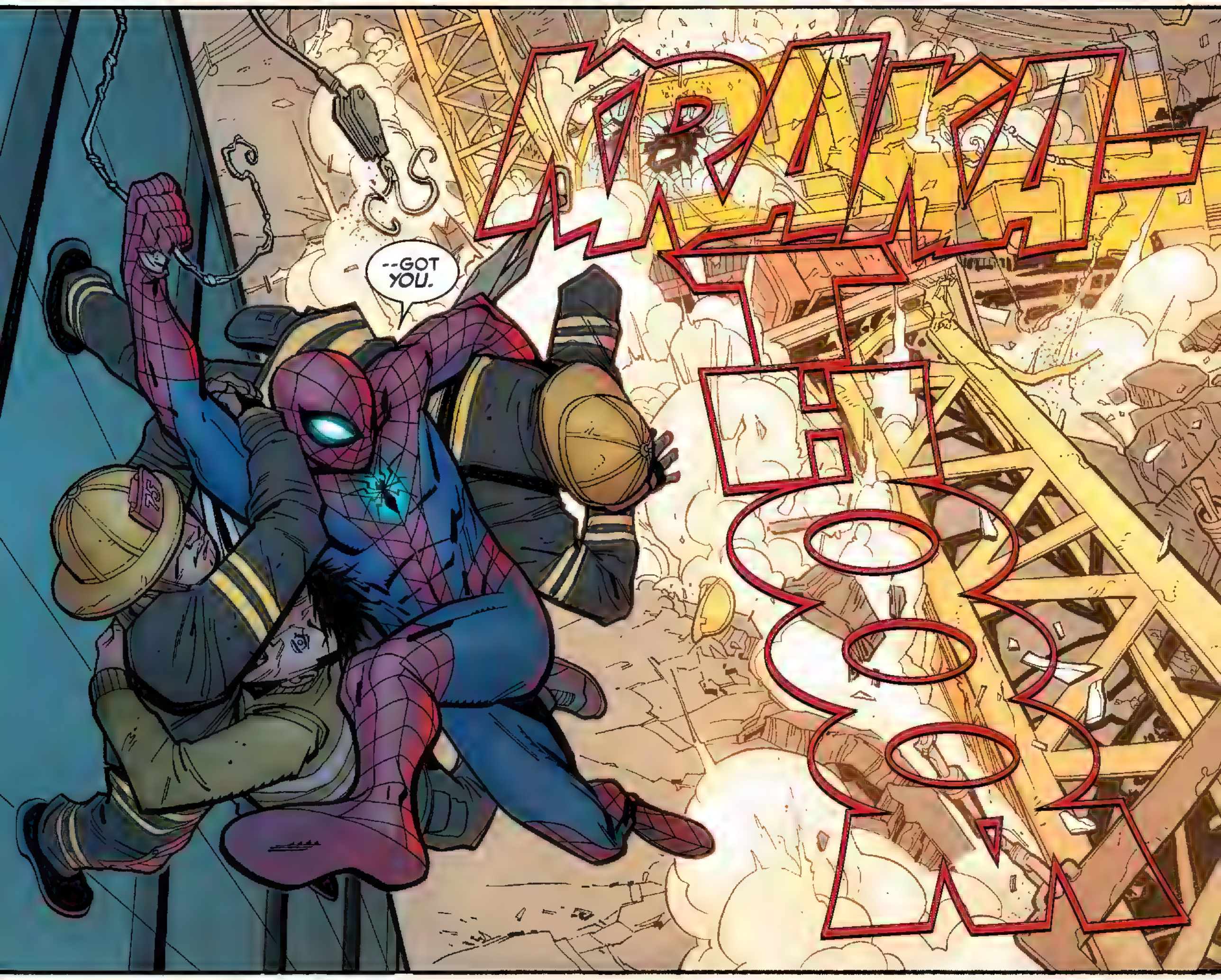
GOT HIM!
HURRY! MY WEBS ONLY LAST AN HOUR, AND THAT'S ALMOST UP!
OH, NO...
FFSSHTT
KNCH

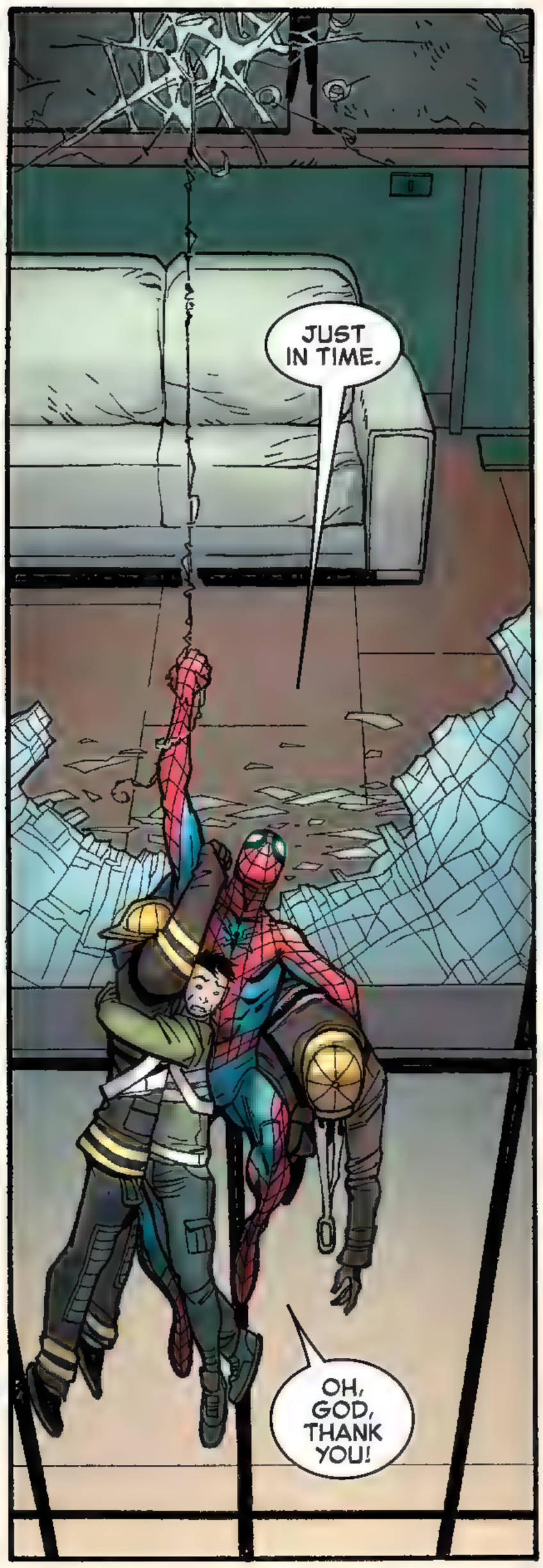

ZIP LINES SECURE! GO! GO!

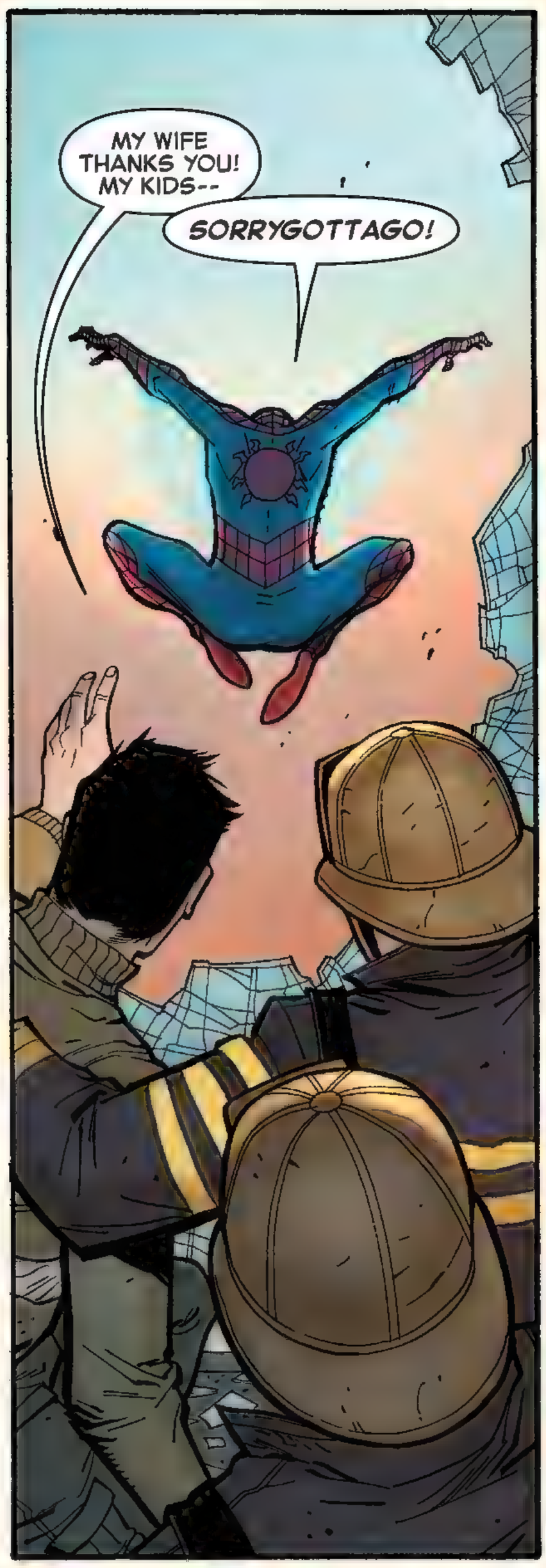
HURRY!


GOTCHA!


AND I'VE--

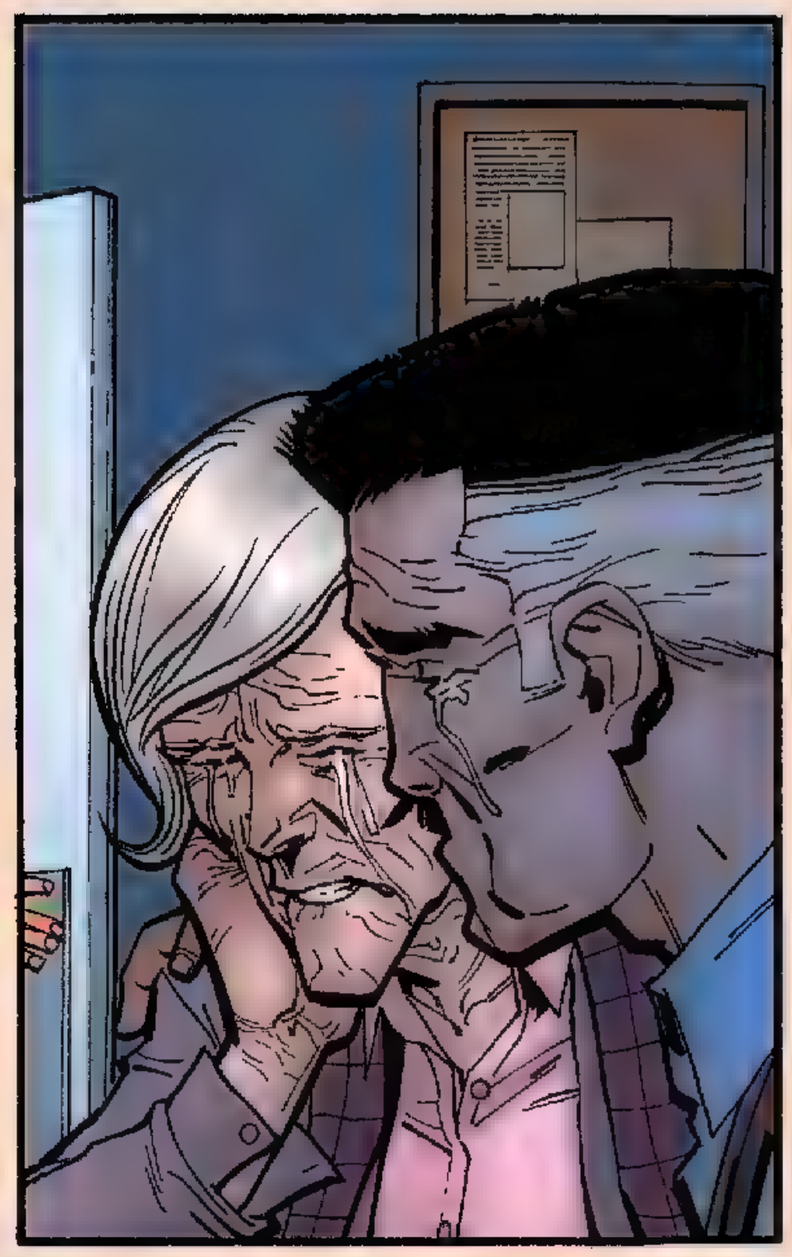

--GOT YOU.
CRASH

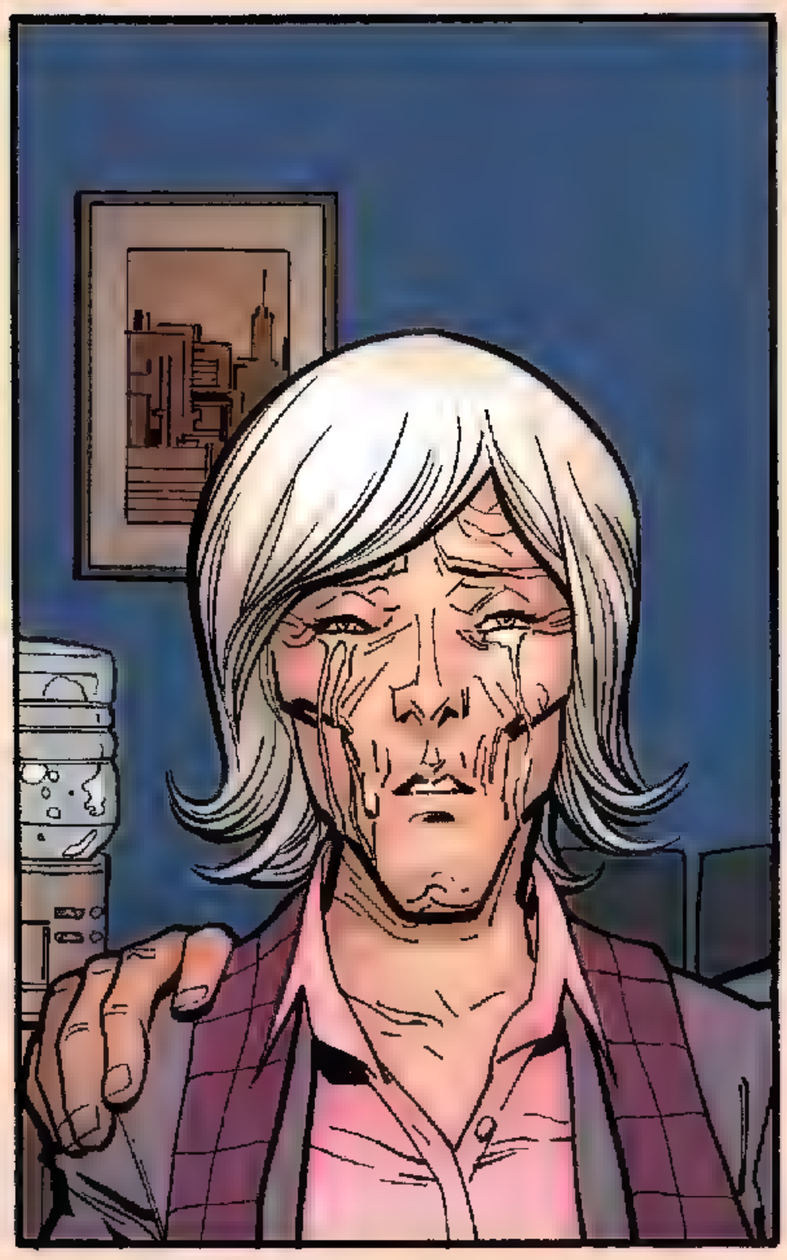

JUST IN TIME.
OH, GOD, THANK YOU!

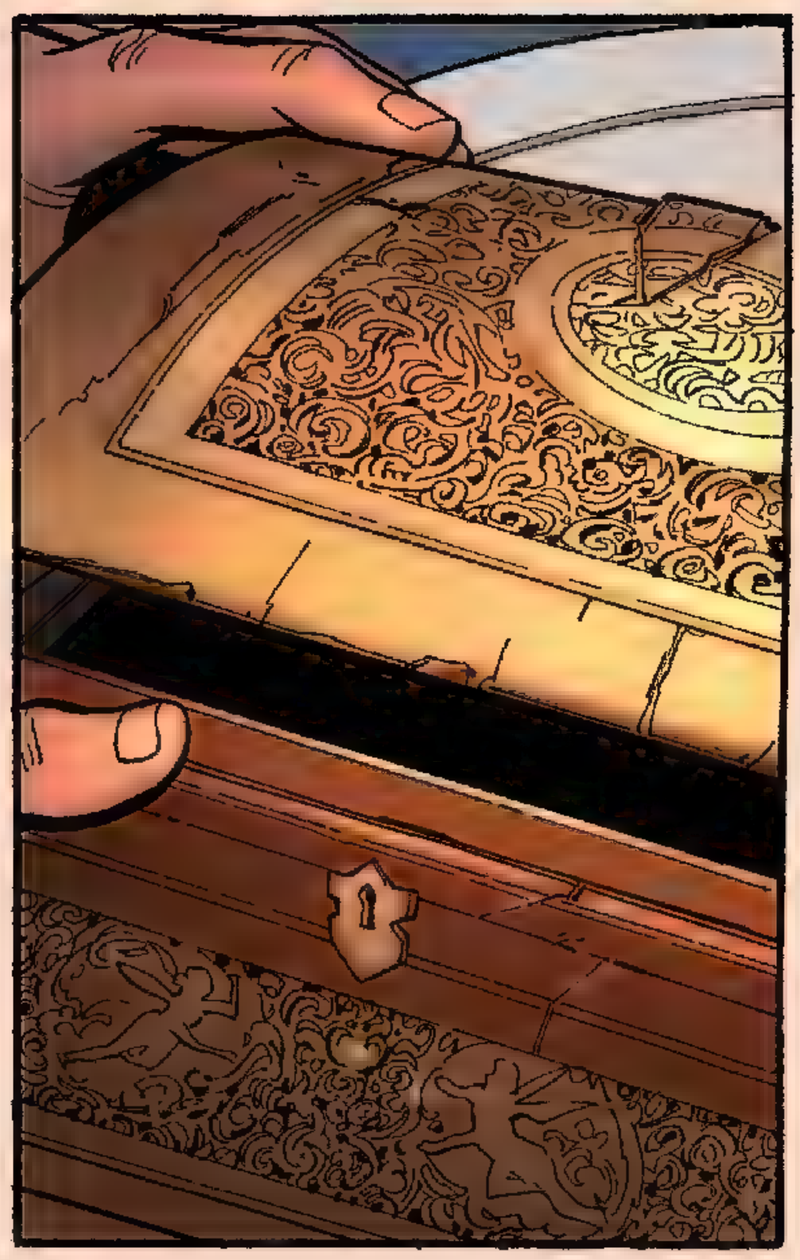

MY WIFE THANKS YOU! MY KIDS--
SORRYGOTTAGO!

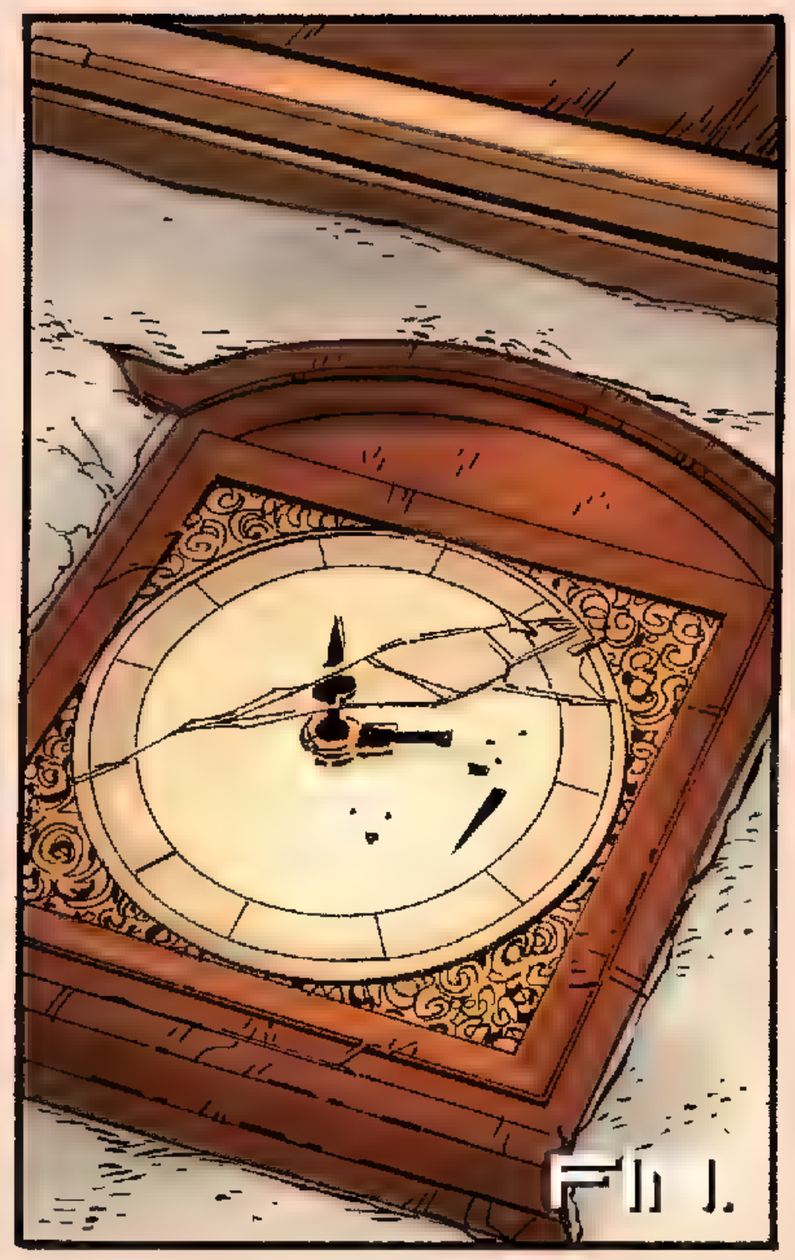
WHERE IS IT-- WHERE--

AUNT MAY! I WAS WRONG! USE THE NEW U!
DAMN IT. CALL JONAH JAMESON!
JONAH! GO WITH NEW U! TELL AUNT MAY I SAID SO!
WHY ISN'T ANYONE PICKING UP?





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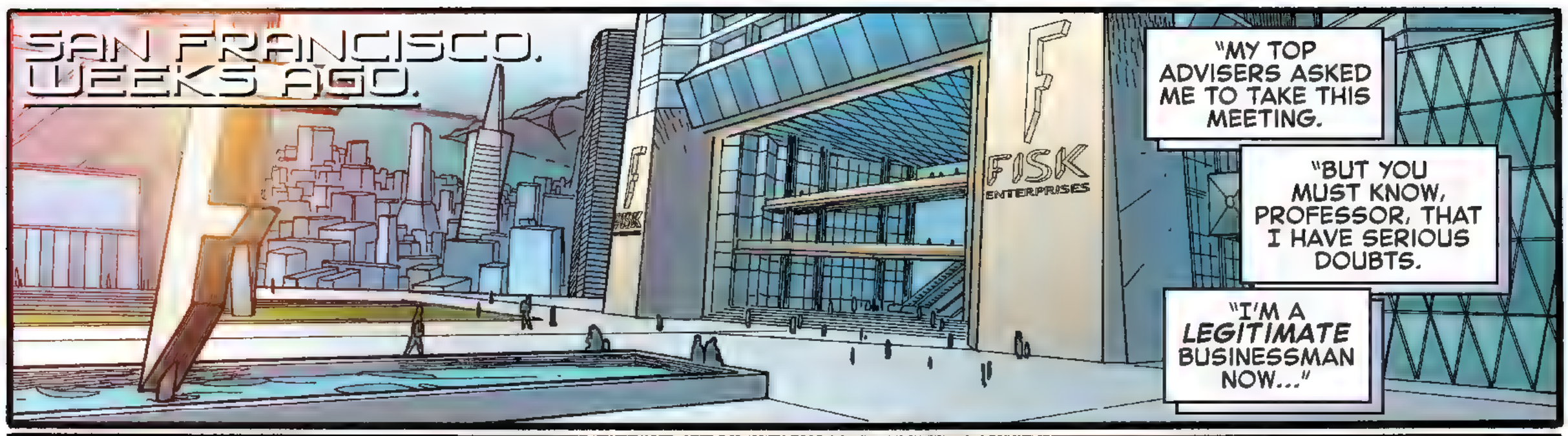
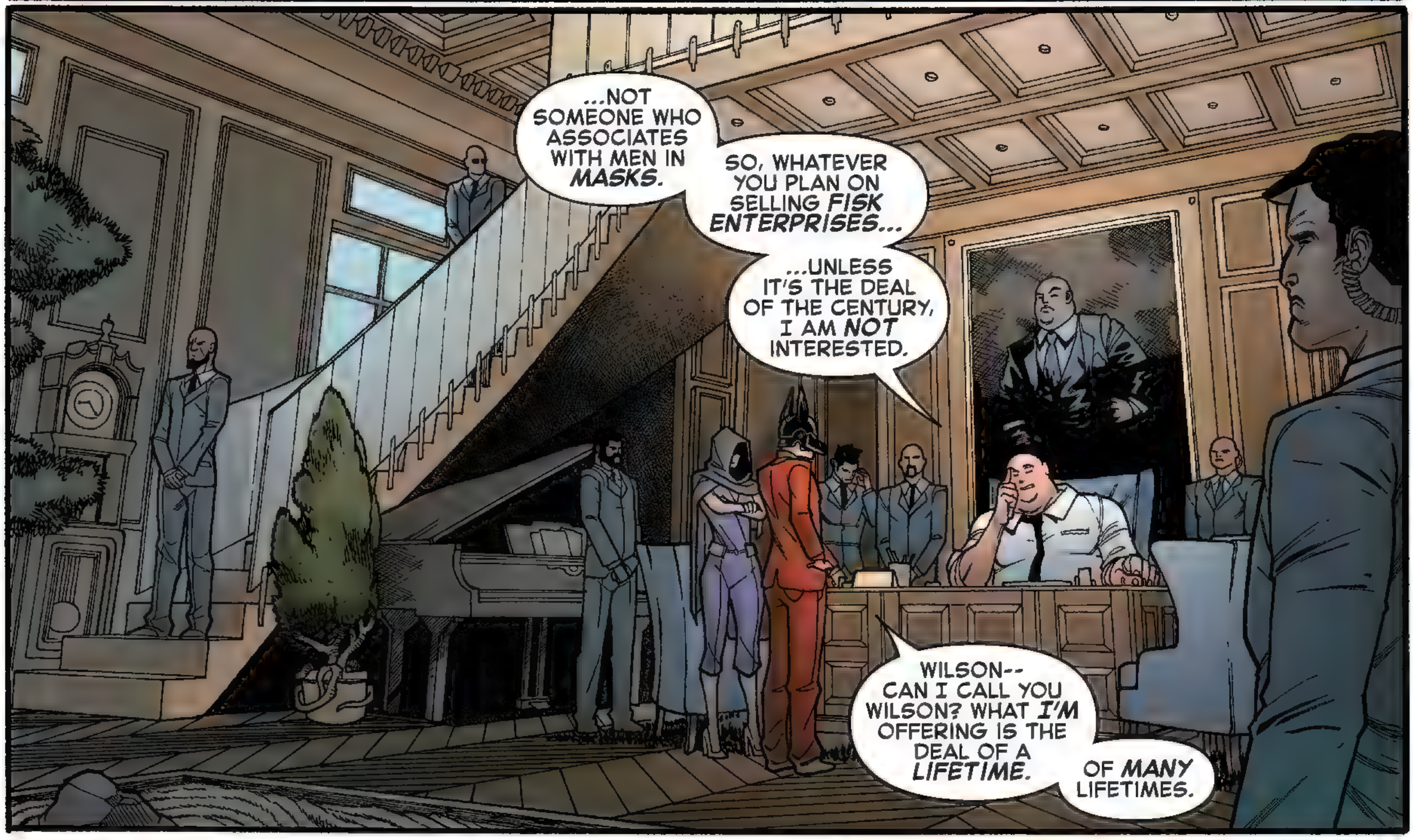
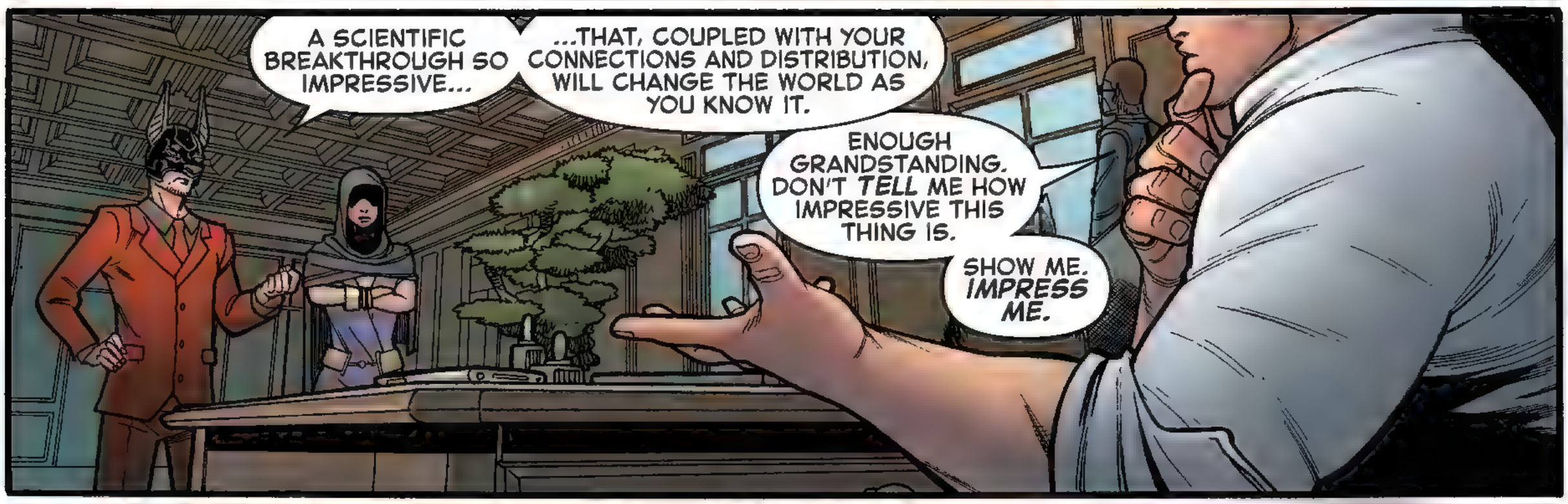
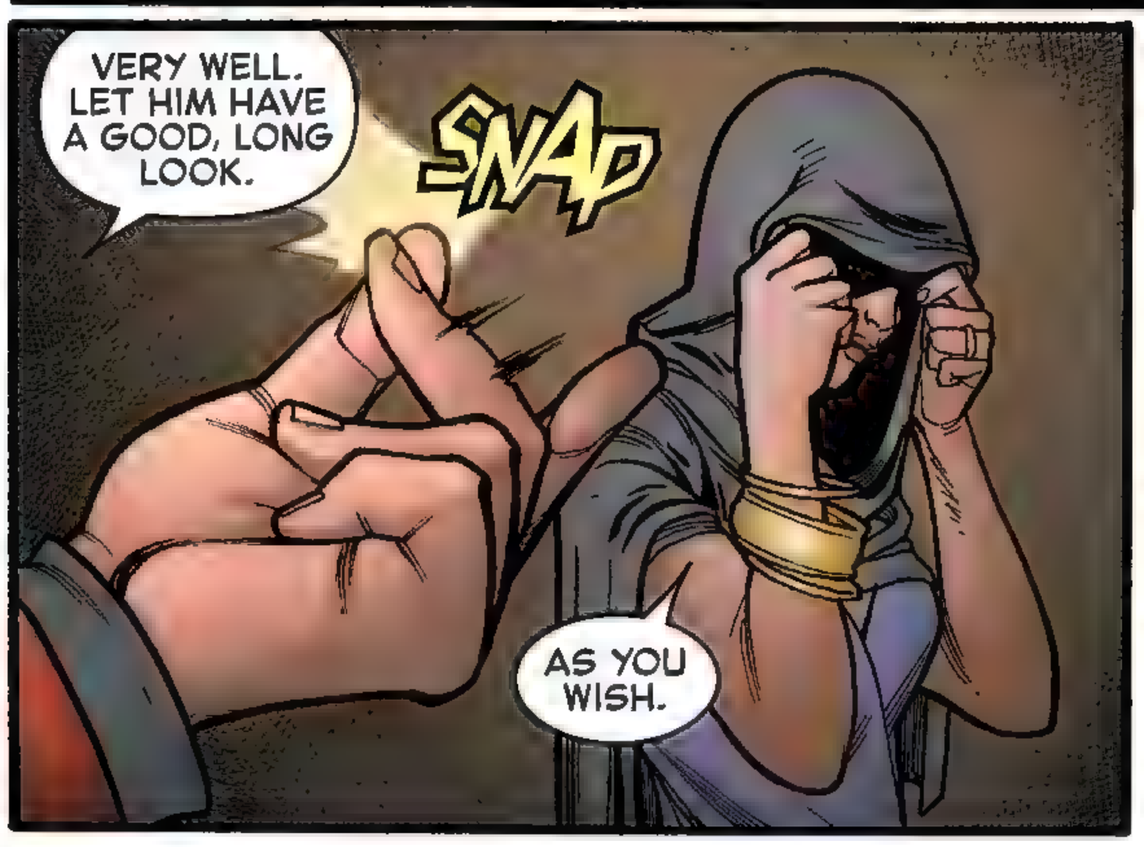
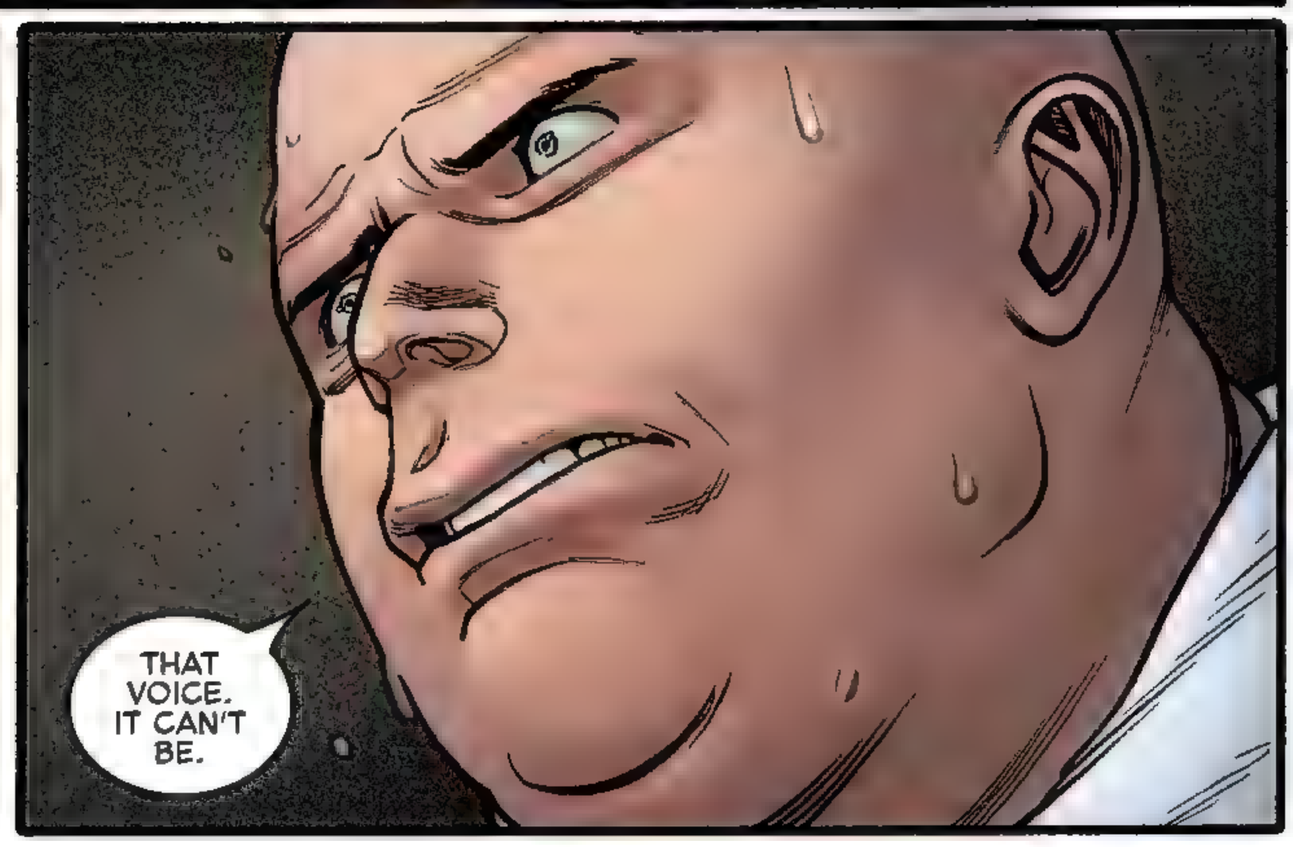

SAN FRANCISCO. WEEKS AGO.
FISK ENTERPRISES
"MY TOP ADVISERS ASKED ME TO TAKE THIS MEETING.
"BUT YOU MUST KNOW, PROFESSOR, THAT I HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS.
"I'M A LEGITIMATE BUSINESSMAN NOW..."


...NOT SOMEONE WHO ASSOCIATES WITH MEN IN MASKS.
SO, WHATEVER YOU PLAN ON SELLING FISK ENTERPRISES...
...UNLESS IT'S THE DEAL OF THE CENTURY, I AM NOT INTERESTED.
WILSON-- CAN I CALL YOU WILSON? WHAT I'M OFFERING IS THE DEAL OF A LIFETIME.
OF MANY LIFETIMES.


A SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH SO IMPRESSIVE...
...THAT, COUPLED WITH YOUR CONNECTIONS AND DISTRIBUTION, WILL CHANGE THE WORLD AS YOU KNOW IT.
ENOUGH GRANDSTANDING. DON'T TELL ME HOW IMPRESSIVE THIS THING IS.
SHOW ME. IMPRESS ME.

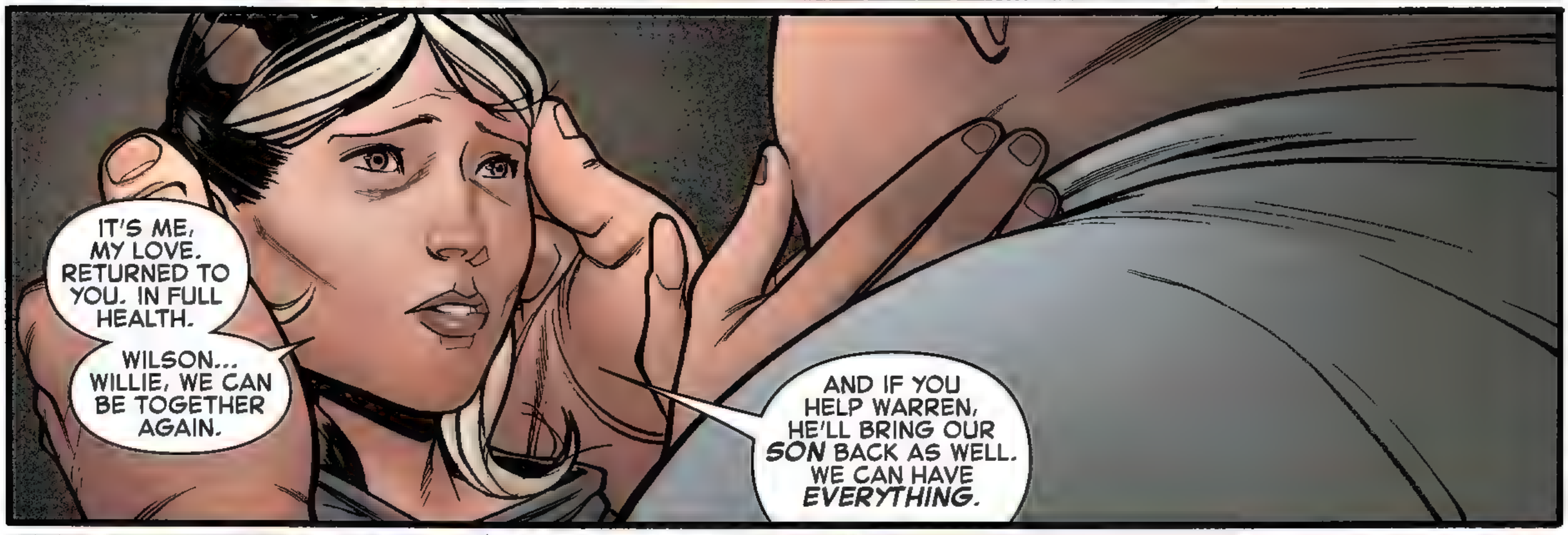

VERY WELL. LET HIM HAVE A GOOD, LONG LOOK.
SNAP
AS YOU WISH.

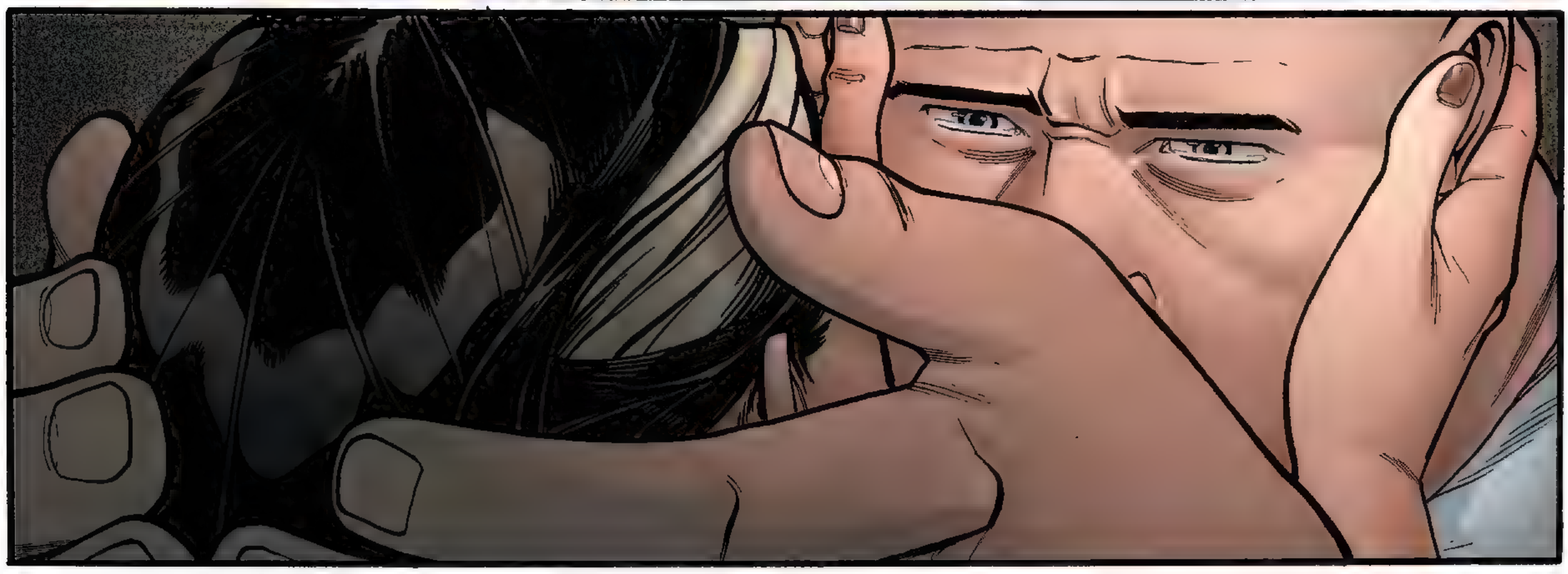

THAT VOICE. IT CAN'T BE.

HELLO AGAIN, MY HUSBAND.
VANESSA!
MY LOVE.
KING'S RANSOM
BY DAN SLOTT, JAVIER GARRÓN, FRANK D'ARMATA, & VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
WARREN, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? IS SHE...?

A CLONE? NO. THIS IS SOMETHING *NEW*. LIGHT-YEARS AHEAD OF MY OLD WORK.
CALL IT A *REANIMATION*.
THIS PROCESS BRINGS SUBJECTS BACK *BETTER* THAN BEFORE. WITH ALL DEFECTS SCREENED OUT. AND EVERY MEMORY RESTORED.


IT'S ME, MY LOVE. RETURNED TO YOU. IN FULL HEALTH.
WILSON... WILLIE, WE CAN BE TOGETHER AGAIN.
AND IF YOU HELP WARREN, HE'LL BRING OUR *SON* BACK AS WELL. WE CAN HAVE *EVERYTHING*.



SNAP

THAT WASN'T MY WIFE. THAT WAS AN ABOMINATION.

MY WIFE IS *DEAD.*

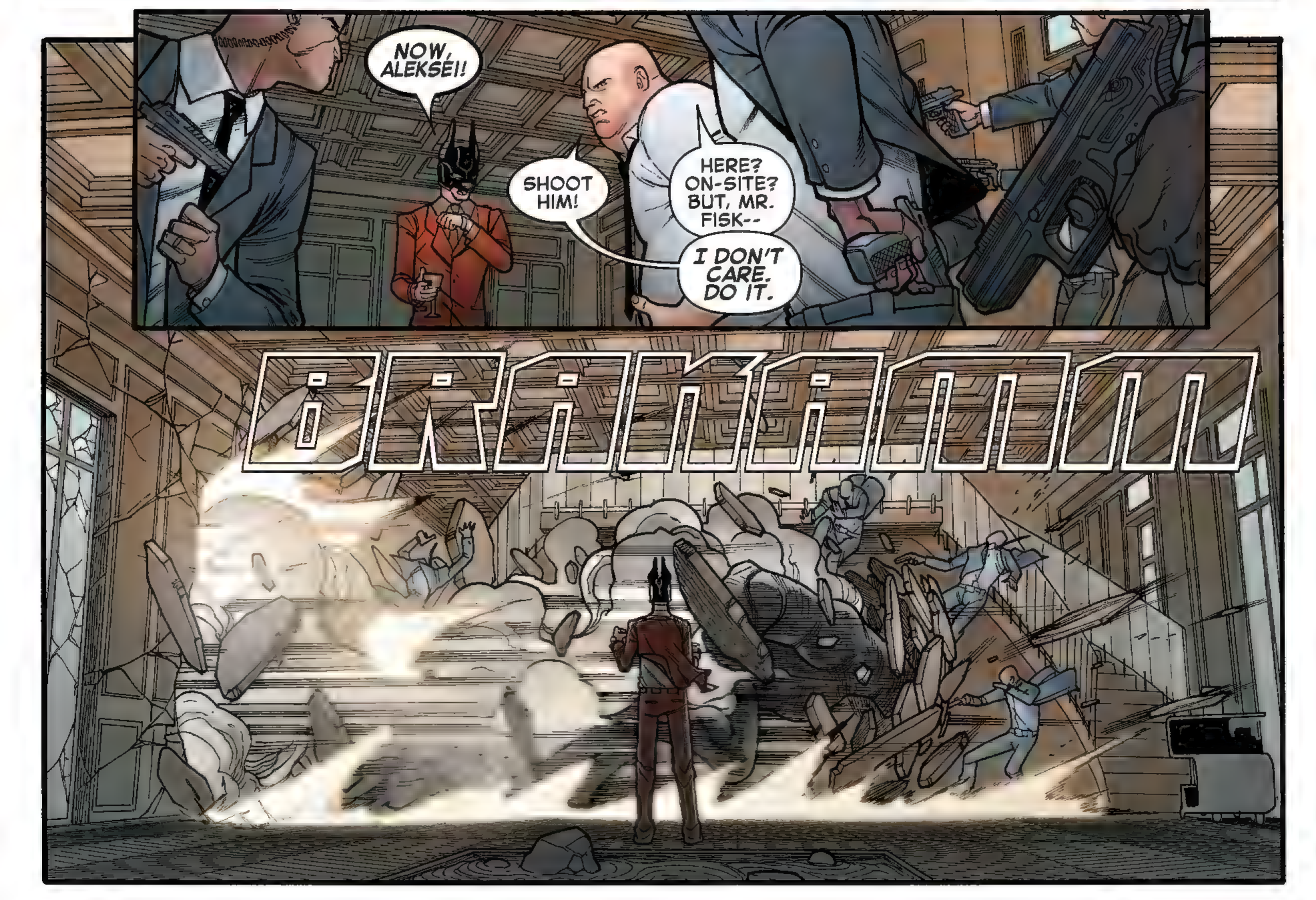
AND FOR DEFILING HER MEMORY, JACKAL, YOU CAN *JOIN HER.*

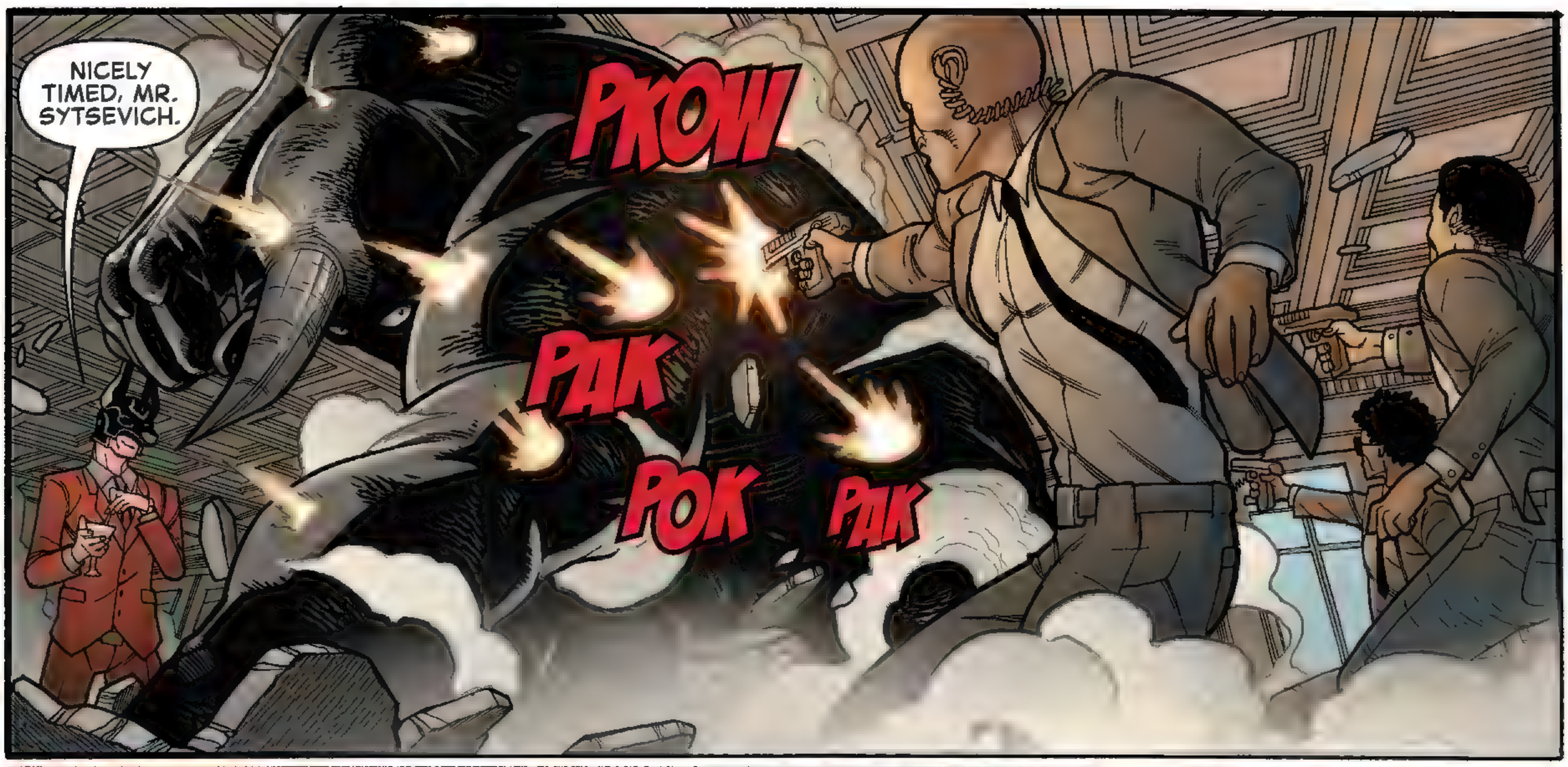
NOW, ALEKSEI!

SHOOT HIM!

HERE? ON-SITE? BUT, MR. FISK--

I DON'T CARE. DO IT.




NICELY TIMED, MR. SYTSEVICH.
PKOW
PAK
POK
PAK

BRING THE CHOPPER DOWN-- NOW!
WE GOTTA GET FISK OUTTA HERE!
NO! I'M NOT LEAVING!
NOT WHILE MILES WARREN IS STILL ALIVE! I'LL KILL HIM MYSELF!

THE HARD WAY, THEN. RHINO, KILL THE KINGPIN.
HUH? MASTER? YOU--
--YOU'VE NEVER ORDERED ME TO DO THAT BEFORE.

HE'S THE KINGPIN. HE'S DONE TERRIBLE THINGS. AND HE'LL ONLY BE DEAD FOR A LITTLE BIT.
BUT--
I'LL BRING HIM BACK. THEN HE'LL BE ON OUR TEAM.
BUT YOU SAID--
GO! KILL HIM AND BRING HIS CORPSE TO THE UNDERWORLD. DON'T MAKE ME ASK AGAIN.

JACKAL!
POOR FISK. YOU COULD'VE HAD IT ALL.
WE COULD'VE BEEN PARTNERS. NOW I'LL BE THE ONLY ONE IN CHARGE.
AND SPEAKING OF "CHARGE"... RHINO?
TOOM TOOM TOOM
PKARUNCHH
KRWG

YOU FORCED HIS HAND.
YOU'RE MAKING ME DO THIS.
TOOM TOOM TOOM
MY MASTER GAVE YOU EVERYTHING, FAT MAN!
AND YOU TURNED HIM DOWN?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO ACT LIKE A FOOL, FISK, YOU CAN DIE LIKE ONE!
GUESS THIS IS WHERE I COME IN.*
FTAAM!
*HOW'D SPIDEY GET HERE? SEE MAY'S FREE COMIC BOOK DAY STORY! --NICK

YOU'RE WELCOME, BY THE WAY, WILLIE.
FOR THE SAVE AND ALL.
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO INTERFERE, SPIDER-MAN.
AND YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE. THIS WAS *PERSONAL.*
BOSS, PLEASE. YOU'RE HURTING. WE'LL GET THIS GUY LATER.

WAIT! ONE OF YOUR MEN'S BEEN GORED.
HE'S BLEEDING OUT!
BOSS? IT'S ALBERTO--
LEAVE HIM.
STRAP FISK IN! WE'RE OUT!

MILES WARREN.
YOU'VE HURT ME LIKE NO MAN HAS HURT ME BEFORE.
THIS WILL NOT STAND.

I WILL DEVOTE MY EVERY RESOURCE TO YOUR *DOWNFALL.*
EVERY WEAPON AT MY DISPOSAL.
HMM.

AND IF *I'M* NOT UP TO THE TASK...
...AND SHOULD HE SURVIVE...
...I AM CERTAIN I CAN MAKE *SPIDER-MAN* DO MY WORK *FOR* ME.
TO BE CONTINUED...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

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Okay, so that was a pretty heavy issue. First, big thanks to Mark Waid and Marcos Martin, who created Jay Jameson in the first place. It was with a VERY heavy heart that we arrived at this story. Jay has played a big part in Peter Parker's life these past few years, and to lose him as a character hurts – almost as much as it hurts May, Jonah and Peter. I've always loved what Jay brought to the book and I'm going to miss him.

Second, Dan Slott and I were SO EXCITED to finally share the other half of the Spider-Man story from Marvel's FREE COMIC BOOK DAY issue. The only bad part about Dan being twelve moves ahead is that you have to wait for the plans to come to fruition!!!

Third, I hope the last few issues of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN have shown you all how serious DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY is going to be. Between the terribly sad fates of Prowler, Max Dillon, and the Living Brain... oh, things are looking grimmer than ever for Peter Parker...

Anyway, onto your letters!

I've been reading comics for 35 years and I must admit...reading the Slott/ Camuncoli recent Amazing Spider-Man has me excited like a 10 year old.

I've always liked Slott's Spider-Man but I admit Spidey is a title I don't read on a regular basis any longer. It was one of my favorite titles as a kid though so I check it out every couple of years to see what is going on.

Camuncoli is the most exciting artist I have seen in years! Gold mine catch for Marvel.

Jorge M.

Couldn't agree more about Giuseppe Camuncoli. He's not only a PHENOMENAL artist, but he's a great human being. I hope he and Dan have convinced you to add AMAZING SPIDER-MAN to your pull list! Don't know what a "pull list" is? YOU ARE MISSING OUT! A pull list is a list of comics that your local comic shop will pull and set aside for you. Go to your local comic shop and set one up NOW so you don't miss out on any of your favorite comics, including DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY! Don't know where the nearest comic shop is? Visit www.comicshoplocator.com or call 1-888-comicbook.

Hello.

I hope this letter has reached the right group of people. This is for the team behind the current run of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (Volume Four, I believe).

I just wanted to let you know that I like some of the things you have been doing with the AMAZING SPDIER-MAN title. I'm glad that Peter is finally being shown as being successful, smart, and that you have gotten rid of a lot of the guilt that the character used to wrestle with. When I read comic books, I don't want to read about someone constantly feeling guilty. I like to read comics to feel good, or get lost in a good adventure, not to be depressed!

Keep up the good work, folks!

Sean

Thanks for the letter, Sean. How'd you like this issue?

Dear Spidey Team,

Greetings from Texas! Love your work.

Also, uh-oh.

I noticed the word 'clone' in issue #16's Spidey-Mail section, and while I'm excited for Doc Ock to be back (maybe? I assume that is what y'all are implying what with Doc living on inside Brain and the upcoming arc being titled 'Dead No More'), I'm a little scared of that word popping up after the Clone Saga.

Granted, it doesn't seem to be going in that direction, though it's unsettling nonetheless.

But hey, y'all have always done well in the past! I first started reading when I was 8, went kinda broke, then restarted at the beginning of the Superior running. It was great, and has been so far, so I trust y'all! Make Ben proud.

Stephen from TX

Hi, Stephen from Texas! Thanks for reading and writing this letter! "Clone" may have five letters but we know that MANY people think of it as a four-letter word. Dan and Jim Cheung's CLONE CONSPIRACY is intense and puts Peter Parker through one heck of a wringer. It's going to get a lot of people talking and probably change the way you look at AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. It's a one-of-a-kind story and I'm excited to get a lot of hate-mail over it!

Hey, Web-Heads,

First off, I want to say I love the new look for the Jackal. The "Egyptian god of the afterlife in Armani" theme is way cooler than his old green body suit. Ditto with his calm, reserved demeanor over his prior capering, mad genius behavior.

Second, if that was Gwen in the FCBD preview, and I can't stress this enough, please don't resurrect her as some evil, "death to Parker," revenge-seeking nut ball. This is your chance to finally bring back the first and best love of Pete's life and do it right. She's due for a win.

Regardless of what happens, I'm in for the long haul (and have been since 1968.)

As always, Make Mine Marvel!

Rob S.

ROB! Glad you like the Jackal's new look. With such a revolutionary new game plan I thought he merited as revolutionary a new look! As for Gwen... keep reading!

Hi there, Spidey Office!

I want to start by praising Dan, Giuseppe and the rest of the Spidey gang on their current run. After one issue of "Before Dead No More", I am officially invested in the storyline.

I had been away from ASM for years, but now that my two boys are into super heroes, I have an excuse to get back in the game.

One of my boys is on the Autism spectrum. And although his favorite character is Iron Man (sorry), he knows everything about the web-slinger; sometimes more than I think!

I see so much Peter Parker and Spider-Man in him; from his very own "Spidey-sense" (it's an Autism thing) to the way he cares for so many even though some may see him as "odd".

As you can see, Spider-Man has a great influence in my life. I would imagine that many in the Autism community feel the same way.

Excelsior!
Nestor C.

Your son sounds pretty spectacular, Nestor. So glad that Spidey both gives him someone to relate to and is something that you two can share. Spider-Man is one of my daughter's favorite characters, too, so I know how much fun that bonding can be!

Dear Spidey Office,

I'm loving the new Spidey comics, and I think they're going great (but hey, when are they not?). I'm excited for DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY even more now that I've seen the last panel of ASM #15! I'm extremely pumped to see Doc Ock coming back and what he'll bring to the table. Also MJ coming back was brilliant! I loved every minute of it! Also I loved [Matteo] Buffagni and [Giuseppe] Cammuncoli's work!

I also have some questions for y'all at the Spidey office:

1. I remember at the end of Spider-Verse that guy said that the webslingers Spider-Sense wouldn't work for a while.

I could see some panels when they had their Spider-Sense though. Around what time did they get their spider-sense back?

2. Back in ASM #4 some Goblin thugs appeared but never appeared again since then. They have also been in SILK. What's going on with that?

3 I know whoever this guy is in the shadows has been rounding up some older Spidey villains like Rhino. Are there any plans for the Sinister Six to return?

4. Any plans for the guys who formerly worked at Horizon Labs?

Anyways those're all the questions I got for ya. It's been nice to see Peter finally do something successful even if it's just gonna fall to pieces eventually (you know that Parker Luck!).

Best,
Joseph L.

Hey there, Joseph! Glad you're excited and let me stoke that excitement by answering your questions...Spider-Sense, in general, took a hit at the conclusion of Spider-Verse but has been coming back gradually as the new Master Weaver re-wove the Web of Life and Destiny! The goblins and the story that Dan teased back in ASM #4 will bear fruit soon! Like I mentioned before, Dan has a lot of plans! The man in the shadows has been revealed as THE JACKAL as you've probably seen since you wrote this letter and his story pays off huge starting in DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #1!!! Which is also a great place to look for your friends at Horizon Labs who have been running Horizon University in San Francisco!

To the Wonderful Spidey Family,

I started reading coming books around junior high. I'm a day one X-Men fan. Before that, I watched the very great SPIDER-MAN AND HIS AMAZING FRIENDS cartoon when I was really young. Eventually, I tried out AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. Soon, along with a few other new favorites and the mutants that I loved, Spider-Man became one of my regular books. There's something just special about Spider-Man.

I'm African American and I have a disease called Sickle Cell Anemia that comes with lots of chronic pain. I have spent many days hospitalized throughout my lifetime. I missed lots of school. I can say comic books helped me cope lots of those times. I'm in my 30s now, and still have to go into the hospital at times.

I love reading Spider-Man. It is especially enjoyable in the hospital. I think what stands out the most is how Spider-Man will come and save the day, but the stories don't end with the bad guys going to jail. The stories only end after Peter Parker has checked on the other people affected by the crime. Whether they are scientists needing a job, a family being intimidated by mobsters, or a brother and sister trying hard not to fall in with the wrong crowd, Spider-Man stories don't end until Peter tries hard to make their lives better than they were when he found them. I'm looking forward to see Miles carry the tradition with Peter.

Excellent work everyone. It has not gone unnoticed.

A Long Time Fan,
Willie Agee

Thanks for the note, Willie. It sounds like you've got it tough and we're glad to play a positive role in helping you get through your trials and tribulations. We'll do our best to keep showing Spidey trying to make the world a better place!

Dear AMAZING SPIDER-MAN Letters Page,

Peter Parker may be a billionaire in this all-new era, but he's still a human. He still makes mistakes just like the Pete we've known for decades: he argued with Tony Stark while he should have been watching Miles, he wasn't strong enough to beat Regent, Peter Parker is not invincible. Spidey has always been the virtual "everyman" in an industry led by the adventures of muscular god-like heroes, one of the many aspects of his character that will forever remain unique to him.

Peter's newfound wealth doesn't bother me I love the fun stories coming from it. Mostly, I'm anticipating the upcoming DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY which I suspect will be another spectacular Spider-Event from Dan Slott and Co.! If clones are returning, I hope to see Ben Reilly at some point and find out how Otto Octavius, whose consciousness is currently stored in The Living Brain, is involved in all of this. There are so many questions I could ask (Is the man in the red suit The Jackal? Why did both Aunt May and her husband, Jay Jameson, cough up blood?), but I doubt any of those questions can be answered without spoilers. That being said, I'll sit back and let the story be told--if it's anything like SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN, it will pay off largely in the end. Keep up the amazing work!

Make Mine Marvel,
Josh L.

This issue should have answered most of your questions, Josh. Though I imagine that the answers may not have brightened your day. EEP! But your kind words are much appreciated. We knew this take on Peter as CEO was a risky way to go, so we're glad it's working for you!

MOVING ON! One of the reasons I wanted to make sure we had a letter column was because THE CLONE CONSPIRACY IS UNDERWAY! Clear your calendar for next Wednesday, one week from today (assuming that you're reading this THE DAY it comes out), October 12th, because that's the day DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #1 hits the stands! It's the big Spider-Event of 2016 and you don't want to miss what Dan and Jim Cheung (along with John Dell and Justin Ponsor) have in store for you. They're almost done with #3 and let me tell you, this event is a doozy, packed with surprises and one of the darkest Spider-Man stories I've ever read.

And after you pick that up, make sure to clear the following Wednesday for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #20, which ties into "The Clone Conspiracy" and digs into a certain eight-armed non-arachnid who thinks he's superior to everyone else.

But enough of me yammering, here's a checklist for the event! Get that pull list updated!!!

Keep Spinnin'!
Nick

OCTOBER

- ☐ DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #1
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #20
- ☐ PROWLER #1

NOVEMBER

- ☐ DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #2
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #21
- ☐ SILK #14
- ☐ PROWLER #2

DECEMBER

- ☐ DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #3
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #22
- ☐ SILK #15
- ☐ PROWLER #3

JANUARY

- ☐ DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #4
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #23
- ☐ SILK #16
- ☐ PROWLER #4

FEBRUARY

- ☐ DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #5
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #24
- ☐ SILK #17
- ☐ PROWLER #5

ZONE